

GOVERNMENT OF MADHYA PRADESH



SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NAGPUR RESIDENCY RECORDS

VOLUME I

(1799—1806)

By

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8 I replied that if a radical reform, such as His Highness and the Minister had alluded to, could happily be effected it would certainly obviate the necessity of the arrangement which I had proposed, as it was the existence of the evil which had induced the Governor-General to suggest that arrangement. I was therefore perfectly ready to meet the Minister on the subject of his proposed reform and if necessary to assist him with my opinion on the probability of its success. The Minister said that he was anxious to discuss that subject with me and it would require much consideration and ample information. He would propose to devote a separate day to the subject as it was now too late to intervene in all the details which would be necessary to a proper comprehension of an extensive and important question.

9 I observed that I was likely desirous of proposing some questions to be relative to the Treaty of Mhar, and to the papers of claims with which he had furnished me. I also repeated my wish to be furnished with the authenticated copies of the Agreement of Khurdla and the Treaty of Eidgheer, together with more detailed information to substantiate the claims that had been advanced in the paper, I had mentioned. The Meer replied that I should be furnished with all the documents I had required as they would be found and prepared. He was determined that we should meet at his house on the morning of the 5th of June.

10 We had then a good deal of general conversation on the subject of the coinage and currency in which the Soubahdar freely participated and appeared much interested. His Highness was in excellent spirits and his manner was very gracious. Raja Chandoo Lal was present the whole of the visit and occasionally took some share in the conversation. After a visit of two hours I took my leave and withdrew and I understand that the Minister and Raja Chandu Lal remained with His Highness for nearly an hour after I withdrew and continued to converse on the subject of my communications to His Highness.

Letter No. 18—The letter along with the enclosure reports the role of outsiders and some of the native commissioned officers in fomenting discontent among the native troops of the Subsidiary Army; the writer suggests what punishment to be inflicted upon those who have been found guilty.

FROM—T SYDENHAM, RESIDENT AT HYDERABAD,

TO—THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS, LORD WILLIAM BENTINCK

Hyderabad, the 14th August 1806

1 I have the honour to inform Your Lordship that I have received Mr. Buchan's letter of the 3rd August, enclosing a copy of his dispatch to the Acting Resident at Mysore.

2 Since the first appearance of defection amongst the native troops of the subsidiary force and particularly since the receipt of the accounts of the late dreadful affair at Vellore, my attention has been constantly directed to discover whether there existed any combination between the troops in the Nizam's service and the native troops of the subsidiary force, or any connection between the capital or the cantonments and the insurgents or the Princes of Tippoo Sultan's family at Vellore.

3 With regard to a hostile combination between this capital or the cantonments the result of my enquiries leads me to suppose that one or two of the principal Omrahs at this capital have tampered with some

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Hussain and Kadar Beg deserve the most condign punishment that can be inflicted on the most unprovoked and abandoned treachery and the Resident, taking into his consideration the supposed extent of the disaffection amongst the whole of the native troops on the Madras Establishment, is of opinion that nothing less than the immediate public and formal degradation of those officers, and the confinement of them in one of the Company's Garrison for life, will have a proper impression on the minds of the native troops at this station or secure the British Government from a repetition of their nefarious and treacherous machinations

4 The Resident is also of opinion that as many more of the native officers, as may be suspected by the Commanding Officer of the force, or Officers Commanding Corps, of having been in any degree implicated in the late alarming disaffection, should be publicly seized and marched down to the Fort of Masulipatam

5 The Resident has every reason to suspect the existence of an hostile combination between certain persons in the city and some of the native commissioned officers of the Subsidiary Force, but although the enquiries of the Resident and the Minister have been unremitting he has not yet been able to discover the nature, extent or ultimate object of that combination as every source of intelligence has failed of procuring satisfactory and conclusive evidence as this subject, the Resident has now no expectation of establishing the fact of a combination in any other way than from the information which may be produced after the seizure of the native officers

6 Nor has the Resident been able to establish any connection between the late disaffection in the subsidiary force and the instigation of the dreadful insurrection at Vellore But if such a connection did really exist, it can only be developed by the intelligence which it may be expected that many persons may be disposed to give after a serious example shall have been made of those persons who are suspected of inciting the sepoys to disaffection and mutiny at this station

7 After a minute and separate examination of the several prisoners at the Residency, it would appear that their cabals and designs had no connection whatever with the late disturbances in the cantonment but as the combination and views of those persons were, to say the least of them, highly improper, and as it is of the greatest importance to repress that spirit of intrigue cabal and clandestine correspondence which has been established against the prisoners, the Resident intends that Degumba Rao and Narsinga Rao, who are inhabitants of the city and subjects of the Nizam, shall be banished from the city, and that Narsaiah, Venketrailloo and Kootenaigue shall be marched under a guard to Madras to be placed under the eye of the Police at that Presidency

TO—CAPTAIN SYDENHAM, RESIDENT AT HYDERABAD

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your memorandum, dated the 9th August, and beg leave in return to state to you what occurs to me on the different subjects contained in it

1st The information you have obtained respecting the treacherous conduct of the Native Officers in general, agrees exactly with that which has been given me, and can leave no doubt in any one's mind of the extent of their guilt

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. FOREWORD

I have much pleasure in writing this foreword to the first volume of Selections from the Old Residency Records of the Central Provinces Secretariat. The work of publishing important historical documents selected from the mass of Secretariat Records has been undertaken by Government with a view to encourage scholarly investigations into the history of our province as well as of India. These will supply raw material for history and on their proper interpretation will depend a correct appreciation of our past. Our history has been so far written by the foreigners. They have depicted our past in a manner that often does not do justice to our national character, or credit to their historical sense. But with this new material placed at the disposal of the historians, it is hoped that our history will be rewritten in a more rational manner. That will certainly be a step towards our national regeneration. For, it is through history properly written, that a nation's consciousness is aroused. It is through history that the glory and greatness of a country can be mirrored into the minds of its people and especially its younger generation.

Now the work, of which this is the first volume, will comprise a series of volumes, and is designed to be completed in at least seven years. Several years back, the Government of Bombay undertook a work of this character, of which the result is the Selections from the Peshwa Daftar, Poona, and the Poona Residency Records. Here we are rather late, but our consolation is that we are still ahead of many others. The work of bringing out the selections from our records has been entrusted to Dr. H. N. Sinha and I am sure a better choice could not have been made. He is already well known as the historian of the Peshwas and I hope he will accomplish this important national work in a manner befitting his reputation.

NAGPUR :

The 17th September 1949.

R. SHUKLA,

Premier,

Government of the Central Provinces & Berar.

INTRODUCTION

This is the first volume of the documents selected from the Nagpur Residency Records preserved in the Central Provinces Secretariat. This is the result of the Central Provinces Government's sanction of a publication scheme which, it is hoped, will be completed in seven years. The idea is to publish seven volumes of Selections from the Residency Records at the rate of one volume of about 500 pages every year. These volumes will contain documents of historical value selected from the mass of Old Records extending over a period of about sixty years. These records begin from the year 1799 when H. T. Colebrooke arrived at Nagpur as the Agent of the Governor-General at the Court of Raghoji II and continue up to the end of the Mutiny. Whether this enormous mass of records can be compressed in seven volumes of selections is yet to be seen. It is, however, proposed to select such documents as will be useful in reconstructing the local history and will throw light on some of the dark corners of Indian history. It is expected that the records which have neither been fully made available to, nor carefully examined by, research scholars so far will yield valuable information to satisfy these two objectives. The present popular Government are responsible for taking this progressive step in sanctioning this publication scheme for which all students of history will be grateful.

From another point of view the Government have to be congratulated on taking this step not a moment too late.

The Secretariat Records, specially of the period, of which the selections are to be made, are in a very bad condition. They have not been properly preserved and little care has been taken or money spent to keep them safe from paper pests and in air-conditioned rooms. To add to this neglect some of them were splashed with water at the time of the Secretariat fire in 1935 and later dried in the sun. As a result of all this many of the records have been badly damaged, and are practically crumbling to pieces. If they had remained in that neglected condition a few years more they would have totally perished. Now that the most useful part of them is going to be published, that danger has disappeared.

Now the Old Records in the Civil Secretariat fall into the following five categories, *viz* —

- (1) The Old Residency Records
- (2) The Nagpur Residency and Secretariat Records
- (3) The Divisional and District Office Records
- (4) The Old Vernacular Records of different States
- (5) The Allahabad Post-Mutiny Records relating to the area formerly known as the Saugor and Nerbudda territories

The Old Residency Records range from 1799 to 1854 with a break of a little less than two years from November 1801 to July 1803. They have been carefully indexed and there are three printed volumes of Indices which are meant for the use of officials or of the research students who want to consult them in the Record Room, but not available for sale. The indexing has been made according to the chronological order of the documents and on the whole very satisfactorily. These records are very valuable since they pertain to a period that started with the relations of equality between the British East India Company and Raghoji II, and ended with the annexation of Nagpur State to the Company's Dominions. The second class of records, *viz*, the Nagpur Residency and Secretariat Records, comprise (a) Revenue and Miscellaneous Records ranging from 1821 to 1874.

in 726 case-files and (b) Bundle Correspondence from 1844 to 1870 in 3 000 case files. They are all in English and an Index to each of (a) and (b) has been prepared and printed according to the alphabetical order of the documents. These also are not for sale and since indexing has not been done according to the chronological order as in the case of the Old Residency Records their value has been much diminished and they have not attracted the notice of research students. These records therefore, have so far remained practically as a sealed book. They will be fully utilized only when selections are made subjectwise and in chronological order.

The third class of records viz. the Divisional and District Office Records comprise (a) the Jubbulpore Divisional Records from 1806 to 1847 in 54 bound volumes (b) Jubbulpore Divisional Records Supplementary List from 1818 to 1859 in 936 case files (c) Chhattisgarh Divisional Records from 1854 to 1859 in 21 bound volumes and (d) the District Office Records prior to the abolition of the East India Company in 1784 case files and 14 bound volumes. There is a printed index to each of the four categories of records and the indexing is according to the chronological order. They are likely to supply valuable material as a learned Secretary to the Chief Commissioner wrote for illustrating the political social and agricultural condition of the early period of the British rule. He also expressed no doubt whether these valuable District and Divisional Records had been utilized when the District Gazetteers were compiled. The fourth class of records viz. the Old Vernacular Records comprise those which relate to (a) the Bhonsla Estate from 1819 to 1885 in 442 case files (b) the Shah Garh Estate from 1810 to 1850 in 271 case files and (c) the Bijay Ragho Garh Estate from 1818 to 1870 in 102 case files. To each of these three categories of records there is a printed index in which the documents have been arranged in their alphabetical order. They may yield valuable information to the student of local history studying the social and economic condition of the people during this period. The last class of records viz. the Allahabad Post Mutiny Records of the years 1858-61 relate to the tracts formerly known as the Saugor and Nerbudda Territories and comprise 38 case-files. These have been indexed but the index has not been printed. Such is the range and volume of records from which selections are to be made for the purpose of placing the raw material of local and Indian history at the disposal of those who are interested in it.

The present volume of Selections covers a period of seven years from 1799 to 1806 with a gap of a little more than two years from June 1801 to July 1803. The period therefore covers more than two years of H. T. Colebrooke's Embassy and the first three years of the Nagpur Residency under Mountstuart Elphinstone. The documents which form the correspondence of Colebrooke are some of the most valuable of those published in this volume since they relate to a period that followed the fall of Tipu and preceded the Second Maratha War which broke the backbone of the Maratha Confederacy. The information which Colebrooke supplied in his correspondence about the state of affairs in Raghujis Dominions—his ministers, army, revenue administration, family matters, etc.—must have been very useful to Wellesley in preparing for the Second Maratha War. Elphinstone arrived at the end of the Second Maratha War in January 1804. He was at first appointed as Acting Resident in the place of Mr. Webbe and then as permanent Resident since Mr. Webbe did not join. Elphinstone's correspondence is very extensive and relates to the events in all parts of India besides those in the dominions of the Bhonsla. It comprises documents of diplomatic import that narrate the negotiations between the British on the one hand and the Bhonsla, the Sindhia, the Nizam and the Holkar on the other for treaties of peace, territorial adjustments or military settlements. Some of them enunciate

the British policy towards these rulers and throw light on various aspects of their internal administration and domestic affairs. They also depict the perfidious character of the ministers and subjects of these rulers. These are some of the outstanding features of Elphinstone's correspondence for the three years 1804—6, included in this volume.

EARLY BRITISH RELATIONS WITH THE NAGPUR STATE

British relations with the Bhonslas of Nagpur began in the time of Warren Hastings during the First Maratha War. Warren Hastings regarded the Poona Government "a natural enemy of Mudhoji" and since the possessions of the British and of the Nagpur Bhonslas were contiguous, he considered "their union important and essential to both".* Hence he deputed Alexander Elliot as the Minister and Public Agent of the Company's Government at the Court of Mudhoji Bhonsla "for the purpose of negotiating a treaty with that chief" † Elliot took with him Robert Farquhar as his Assistant, Captain William Campbell and Lieut. James Anderson. He left Calcutta about the end of July 1778, proceeded by way of Cuttack which he left on the 11th August 1778 and died on the way near Sarangarh on the 12th September. The party, however, proceeded to Nagpur where they arrived on the 14th November and stayed for nearly a month. They could not transact any official business and left Nagpur on the 12th of December 1778. That was the end of Elliot's Embassy. Hastings made a second effort for a friendly alliance, with Mudhoji Bhonsla, when taking advantage of the presence at Cuttack of Chimnaji, the second son of Mudhoji, he sent David Anderson in January 1781 to meet him there. After some preliminary discussions at Cuttack he returned to Calcutta with the Maratha envoys for a final settlement after their personal interviews with the Governor-General. On the 6th of March an agreement was reached to the satisfaction of both the parties and that was the result of Anderson's negotiations.

In 1782 the Treaty of Salbai brought the First Maratha War to a close. In 1785 Mudhoji visited Poona, and there, owing to the pressure of Nana Fadnavis, he preferred to ignore the terms of the agreement negotiated by Anderson. Mudhoji returned to Nagpur in the early part of the year 1786 and in September of the same year arrived Cornwallis as the Governor-General of India. With a view to defeat the designs of Tipu who had composed his differences with the Nizam and the Poona Court, he started negotiations with the Nagpur, Poona and Hyderabad Courts. Accordingly towards the close of 1787 he deputed George Forester to the Court of Mudhoji Bhonsla to induce him to be a party to the alliances he had been forming against Tipu. Forester arrived at Nagpur on the 15th January 1788. Since Cornwallis was convinced by Forester's accounts that the strength and political importance of the Bhonsla was "contemptible so that the Company could derive no benefit from any further alliance or connection with him" he ordered Forester to return to Calcutta and he left Nagpur on the 10th of February 1789. In the meanwhile Mudhoji who had been ruling all these years as the Regent for his son Raghoji, died on the 9th May 1788, and Raghoji became ruler now in fact as he was already in name. In December 1789 broke out the war with Tipu, and as a support to the triple alliance concluded between the Nizam, the Peshwa and the Company, Cornwallis sent Forester once again to Nagpur. Forester arrived at Nagpur on the 3rd of June 1790 and remained there till his death on the 5th of January 1791.

It was not till Wellesley became Governor-General in 1798 that the political situation of the British in India necessitated the appointment of another envoy at the Court of Raghoji Bhonsla. Wellesley selected

*The report of the Committee of Secrecy Appendix 68

†*Ibid.* Appendix 69

Henry Thomas Colebrooke the famous orientalist for the purpose and he arrived at Nagpur on the 18th of March 1799. Being a scholar and devoted to learning and research he was ill suited to the task of diplomacy and failed to comprehend the real intentions of Raghaji Bhonsla as they changed from time to time. He could not persuade Raghaji to consent to a treaty of subsidiary alliance and in January 1801 requested the Governor General to recall him. On the 19th of May 1801 he left Nagpur and another envoy was not appointed till the end of December 1803 after the treaty of Deogion was signed.

On the 21th December 1803 General Wellesley appointed Mountstuart Elphinstone his political assistant and Persian Interpreter to act as Resident at the Court of Raghaji Bhonsla pending the arrival of Mr Webbe but since Mr Webbe never came to Nagpur Elphinstone was appointed on a permanent basis.

SELECTIONS FALL INTO TWO PERIODS

The records selected for this volume thus fall into two distinct periods of political relationship between the Company and the Nagpur Court. The first period that terminated with the recall of Colebrooke is characterised by relations based upon an equality of status and mutual respect, and the second that started with the arrival of Elphinstone, is characterised by the loss of that status and respect enjoyed by Raghaji II in his relations with the Company. During the first period the Nagpur State was regarded according to Hastings as the most powerful of the states which bear the Maratha name and its ruler according to Colebrooke as seeking to become the arbitrator between the powers of Hindustan. In the second period the British Government condescends to regard that Raghaji should continue a respectable power in India and that if he should fulfil the articles of peace and perform the common duties of friendship' (Wellesley to Elphinstone 24th December 1803).

The selected records of these two periods have been classified according to their subject matter under the following heads —

- (1) Nagpur and Hyderabad Residency
- (2) Raghaji's Government
- (3) Diplomatic Correspondence
- (4) Sambalpur and Cuttack Affairs
- (5) Pindaries
- (6) Border Raids
- (7) British Policy in general
- (8) Nizam's Affairs
- (9) Bhonsla Nizam Territorial Claims
- (10) Peshwa's Affairs
- (11) Holkar's Affairs
- (12) Sindbia's Affairs
- (13) Miscellaneous comprising Mysore Affairs Trade and Commerce etc.

Nagpur and Hyderabad Residency

In this section have been included a few records which pertain to the appointment of Residents at Nagpur and Hyderabad or to any other ancillary matters. The first letter written by Colebrooke reports that he arrived at Nagpur on the 18th March 1799 and paid his first visit to Raghaji on the 19th March. Raghaji had gone out of Nagpur in company with

a part of his family and returned to his palace on the 17th March. The second document addressed to Colebrooke by Edmonstone, Secretary to Government, intimates that the Governor-General had "resolved to withdraw the Residency from Nagpur", and it is dated 15th April 1801. On the 17th May 1801, Colebrooke had his last interview with Raghoji and on the 18th Raghoji came to the tents of Colebrooke to return the visit and then a day or two later the Resident left Nagpur. (Letter, dated the 20th May 1801) Before he left Nagpur, Vyancoji, Raghoji's brother, had been in communication with him and revealed to him some of the most secret information about the intentions of Raghoji. On the 8th May 1801, Colebrooke reported that Vyancoji's agent disclosed "that Raghoji Bhonsla is privy to the counsels of the other Mahratta Chiefs" and that the dissolution of the alliance between the Nizam and the Company is an object which the Mahrattas have much at heart and to effect which every artifice will be used". About a fortnight later, on the 22nd May 1801, Colebrooke reported that Vyancoji's confidential agent had visited him in his tents after he had marched one stage from Nagpur and disclosed "that Raja Raghoji does not intend to meet the Peshwa at the general convention of Mahratta Chiefs on the banks of the Godavery. All harbour designs which are injurious to the Company but which are so in various degrees. Whether they would adopt a consistent plan seems doubtful, but the British Government should be on its guard, and Vyancoji is solicitous to merit its favour by rendering important service to the Company at this juncture". When questioned as to the correctness of this information, the agent told Colebrooke "that proof would soon appear within a few months and evidence would arise of its own accord. It is only when the exigency should be apparent that Vincojee can expect his services to be accepted or his wishes to be complied with". Such were the services that the brother of Raghoji II was eager to render to the British Government. Treachery against the state or its ruler had become a confirmed characteristic of the Indians and the British Residents always utilized this element in the Indian courts to further the interests of their own nation.

How the British were eager to collect secret and useful information from confidential sources is also borne out by the instructions General Wellesley issued to Elphinstone when the latter was appointed Resident at Nagpur in 1803. In his letter, dated 24th December 1803, General Wellesley directs Elphinstone to "endeavour to obtain an accurate account of the numbers and description and disposition of the Rajah's armies, discover the movements of each corps and endeavour to trace the causes of them. It is very desirable also that you should endeavour to ascertain the extent of the Rajah's resources, the amount of his revenue, from what source it is derived and how collected, and the nature of his tenure of the different portions of territory still remaining in his possession". How to collect this information is also indicated. "You must employ those which your own experience and discretion will suggest and as I know that no intelligence can be gained without expense, I beg you to incur such as you may think absolutely necessary to obtain that which is necessary. I beg leave also to recommend to you as much as possible, a constant personal intercourse with the ministers of Raghojee Bhonsla's Durbar, instead of communicating by means of any native servants". General Wellesley himself had tried to win over Raghoji's ministers by giving them annual pensions—a fact which was kept a secret from Raghoji for at least two years till April 1806. (Letter from Elphinstone to the Governor-General, dated 16th April 1806) After it was communicated to the Bhonsla, the ministers wanted that the pensions be made permanent by the issue of sanads. "Since the grant of pensions to Shridhar Pandit, Jaswant Rao and Jaikishan Rao", wrote Elphinstone, "those ministers, particularly the first, have shown considerable anxiety to receive Sunnuds for the continuance of them under

the seal of the Government' (Elphinstone to Edmonstone dated 18th June 1806). Indeed how Elphinstone endeavoured to keep the ministers of Raghoji in good humour is admitted frankly in a letter addressed to the Governor General dated 12th February 1806. 'I have hitherto given presents,' he writes 'on a liberal scale from the idea that no mode was so effectual for conciliating the selfish and rapacious ministers of a Maratha Court. That was the estimation of the political integrity of the ministers of Raghoji left by a diplomat and historian. They were ready to sell their self respect and along with it the country's freedom for a mess of pottage.

As regards the staff of Nagpur Residency, Mr Elphinstone had been appointed Secretary to the Resident Mr Josiah Webbe on a monthly salary of Rs. 1500 but since Mr Webbe could not come and subsequently died Elphinstone became Resident. Richard Jenkins was appointed Assistant Secretary of the Residency at Nagpur with a salary of Rs. 400 a month plus an allowance of Rs. 12 per day. After the death of Mr Webbe he acted in his place as the Resident with Dowlat Rao Sindhia (Old Residency Records, Volume 29 letters Nos 7 and 9 dated 1st February 1804), and Lt Robert Close took his place as Assistant Secretary of Nagpur Residency. In 1805 the Residency had the services of an Assistant Surgeon when Mr Briggs was appointed on a salary of Rs. 400 a month (Old Residency Records Volume 30 letter No 15 dated 1st May 1805). Owing to the frequent incursions of Pindaries into the Nagpur province reaching within a few miles of Nagpur an escort for the Resident consisting of two complete companies of Sepoys was ordered to start for Nagpur early in January 1806 and it reached there in April 1806 (Old Residency Records Volume 2 letter No 70 dated 9th January 1806). Other Residents who were contemporaries of Elphinstone were Col B Close at Poona Major A Walker at Baroda (Old Residency Records Volume 30 letter No 47 dated 7th September 1805), Capt J Baillie Agent to the Governor General in Bun elkhand Col J Malcolm and after him G Mercer with Dowlat Rao Sindhia and Major Kirkpatrick, temporarily succeeded by Henry Russell and permanently by Thomas Sydenham at Hyderabad.

Administration of Raghoji

The administration of Raghoji was typical of the times—slow corrupt and inefficient. All depended upon the personal pleasure of the ruler his wishes and caprices and those of his ministers and favourites. There was nothing like a system inherently capable of functioning on set and well known principles. The territories were a personal possession the government a sort of paternal autocracy, and the people subjects in the true sense of the word. Elphinstone described Raghoji as a short fat dark man rather mean in his appearance but mild and decent in his behaviour. He does not appear to maintain much state but few people who attend him are well dressed and respectful (Old Residency Records Volume XXV, letter No 2 dated 11th January 1804). About his mode of work and disposition Colebrooke thus records his impression. Raghoji Bhonsla though not averse from pleasure and dissipation is attentive to business. He does not entrust any of his ministers with the chief direction but reserves it in his own hands consulting however with his three principal officers on all matters whether trivial or important. He is chiefly but not exclusively swayed by the advice of Gouthaba Chitnavis the Moonshi Shridhar Pandit is also listened to and acts in concert with Gouthaba but the Bukshee Bhowannee Pandit has little influence being rather feared than liked by the Rajah and being supported only by his interest with the Rajah's mother. Though Raghoji's Government be strict and in some instances severe his temper is mild and manners popular his abilities are more solid than brilliant, and he appears to be possessed of great prudence.

but not without ambition" Writing about his territories Colebrooke observes that "a great part of his dominions consists in a mountainous tract of country almost desolate and unproductive The Nizam participates in the revenues of Berar proper and the descendant of the ancient Rajah has a fourth part of the revenue of Gondwana Half of the Chhattisgarh is the appanage of Raghojee's brother and other dominions are allotted to his own son and to his female relatives" (Letter, dated 14th April 1799) As regards the revenues of Raghoji, Colebrooke points out that his gross revenue could not be much less than two crores and after making every necessary deduction the net revenue "cannot be less than 125 lacs from his ancient dominions and will probably amount to 150 lacs when the revenue of Garrah Mandla is fully collected" (Letter, dated 1st October 1799) With regard to his military strength Colebrooke records his opinion as follows "That part of the Rajah of Berar's infantry which is armed with muskets, though constituting in the Rajah's own opinion his chief strength, does in reality add little to his military power The sepoys are so very imperfectly disciplined that they cannot be said to have learnt the use of fire-arms and they are wholly ignorant of manœuvres. The corps of dismounted carabineers, were it even numerous and disciplined, would be insignificant, because their arms which are more properly blunderbusses than carabines are ill-suited for a body of infantry Concerning the corps of Arabs and of Pathans, it is sufficient to say that they are armed and accoutred in the oriental manner and are not accustomed to a discipline which can fit them for acting with effect in the field The artillery is ill-appointed The guns do indeed appear to be well cast and good cattle is allotted to the ordnance department but the gun carriages are ill-constructed and the ammunition and service of the artillery have all the defects common to the ordnance of native powers

"The cavalry is the most efficient part of the Rajah's military establishment His Pagga horse, and that furnished by Silahdars or partisans do not seem inferior to the cavalry entertained in the same modes by other Mahratta Chieftains but the Pindara or irregular horse adds more to the numbers than to the strength of his army On this subject I have received some information from an intelligent officer who lately held a principal command in the Rajah's service He reckons the whole military establishment of Berar at 55,000 men including the irregular horse and permanent detachments in Cuttack and in other remote provinces The radical defect of the Rajah's military establishment appears to be irregular payment of the Army" (Letter, dated 1st October 1799)

These accounts of the Bhonsla's army, territory and government led Wellesley to regard the Nagpur state as a third rate power, and he boldly went forward in his preparations to crush the Maratha Confederacy which he accomplished in the Second Maratha War

Cession of Sambalpur and Chhattisgarh States to the Bhonsla.

After the treaty of Deogaon the dominions of Raghoji very much shrank in extent by the cessions he had to make He had to cede Berar and Orissa and his dominions were practically surrounded by those of the Company and their ally the Nizam. By the second article of the treaty of Deogaon, Raghoji ceded "in perpetual sovereignty the province of Cuttack including the port and district of Balasore" to the Company But it was regarded as desirable and convenient by the Company's agents to acquire the entire hinterland to the province of Cuttack comprising the modern feudatory states of Orissa and Chhattisgarh It would provide, they pleaded, an additional barrier for the Cuttack province and connect the Northern Sarkars with Bundelkhand This region comprised certain states which were within the province of Cuttack and, therefore, were under the

direct rule of the Marathas and certain others which were outside the territorial limits of the Cuttack province but paid when required some tribute to the Marathas (Letter dated 18th November 1804 from the Commissioners for the Affairs of Cuttack to Liphinstone). In the first category were the Rajas of Khurda, Daspalla, Angul, Hindole and Dhenkanal and in the second category were the Rajas of Boud, Ramgar, Sonepur and Sambalpur. Apart from these the Rajas of Banra, Bamra and Keonjhar were regarded as independent. (Enclosure to letter dated 19th January 1804 of the Marathas). Those states which were within the jurisdiction of the Cuttack province came under the British as a result of the cession of that province according to the second article of the treaty of Deogaon. Those that were outside Cuttack province or Independent of the Maratha authorities had either solicited or were induced to solicit British protection on favourable terms. Engagements had been concluded with them even before the treaty of Deogaon and these were covered by the tenth article of that treaty. It was with great reluctance that Raghooji accepted this article of the treaty and that under the threat of a renewal of hostilities. According to these engagements the Rajas were 'to pay five gold mohurs annually as a wish of courtesy' to the Company and were guaranteed peace and friendship of the Company in return. (Letter dated 13th December 1803 from Lt Col Harcourt and Mr Melville). Apart from this Lt Col Broughton had early in January 1804 effected the conquest of Sambalpur and Sonepur in spite of the opposition of the Maratha troops in those regions. In his letter dated 4th March 1804, Mr Edmonstone Secretary to Government had intimated Major General Wellesley that though the Company's protection had been assured to these Rajas against the Bhonsla it would be withdrawn if they themselves consented to resume their original state of dependence on the Maratha Government. In response to this a petition dated 26th March 1804 was received by Lt Col Broughton from Rani Rattan Kunwar of Sambalpur, Rajah Jhujhar Singh of Raigarh, Rajah Biswanath Sahi of Sarangarh, Rani Laxmi Priya of Sonepur, Rajah Beerbudh Jena of Rairakhole, Raja Indra Deo of Gangpore, Raja Tribhuvan Deo of Bamra, Raja Indra Deo of Bonai, Dewan Shly Singh of Sakli and Raja Ranjit Singh of Bargarh, all professing that they had voluntarily submitted to the English Government which they regarded their sole protection and rejected the idea of returning to the Bhonsla's Government. (Enclosure 3 to letter dated 2nd April 1804 from Lt Col Broughton to Edmonstone). This strengthened the hands of Wellesley and the transfer was legally confirmed by the tenth article of the treaty of Deogaon.

After Wellesley came Cornwallis as Governor General for the second time. Anxious to adhere to the non intervention policy and to placate the Bhonsla he decided upon restoring eventually to the Rajah of Berar the districts of Sambalpur and Patna without compromising public faith of the Company's Government. He thought that the public faith of the Company would not be compromised if they were given adequate compensation for the loss of territory and dignity in case they refused to remain under Maratha Government. The engagements having been contracted with the Chiefs and Zamindars personally and extending he thought no farther on our part than to preclude us from placing them under the dominion of the Marathas without their consent it may be a question whether we are not at liberty to restore the territory which they occupy to the Maratha Government even without the consent of those Chiefs and Zamindars provided we offer them a reasonable compensation and afford them in their own persons the stipulated protection. (Letter from Edmonstone to Cant Roughsedge dated 12th September 1805). It was proposed that those Rajas and Zamindars who would refuse to remain under the Marathas might be given jagirs and stipends in Khurda and

Ranchi district. On this basis negotiations were opened and after prolonged discussions some of them showed their willingness and others a strong reluctance to accede to these proposals. Chiefs like Rajah Jhujhar Singh of Raigarh resented the proposals and threatened armed resistance, if they were forcibly transferred to the Bhonsla's Government. (Letter from Roughsedge to Edmonstone, dated 27th March 1805). The Rani of Sambalpur who had at first agreed to the proposal on the condition that her son and husband kept as prisoners at Nagpur would be released, refused to quit her country or return to the Bhonsla's Government when that condition was not accepted by Raghoji. After a good deal of irritation during the negotiations the British Government transferred the Sambalpur, Sonepur and adjacent territories to the Bhonsla by an engagement, dated 15th May 1806.

Bhonsla-Nizam Disputes

During the period under review there were certain disputes between the Governments of the Bhonsla and the Nizam regarding the fulfilment of the stipulations of the Deogaon Treaty and the settlement of their boundaries. The first dispute arose in consequence of the Nizam's refusal to return the money collected by his officers from the country around the fort of Gawilgarh, after that fort with its adjoining district was restored to the Bhonsla. A long and irritating correspondence ensued between the two courts, the British Residents there, the Governor-General, and Major-General Wellesley. Ultimately General Wellesley wrote to Col. Kirkpatrick, the Resident at Hyderabad, on 8th January 1805, "that if the Soobah of the Deccan should not immediately place at your disposal or at the disposal of the Rajah's Vakeels the funds required to discharge this demand you ought to inform the Soobah of the Deccan that you will apply to the discharge of the Rajah's demand the sums in your hands due to His Highness the Peshwa". That was what Col. Kirkpatrick had suggested to the General in his letter, dated 29th December 1804. Owing to this directive from General Wellesley as also according to the instructions received from the Governor-General, Kirkpatrick agreed to pay the amount due to the Bhonsla by a draft in favour of Elphinstone. (Letter from Kirkpatrick to Elphinstone, dated 5th April 1805). Then there was some unpleasantness over the cession "to the Raja of Berar, his share to certain districts east of the Wardha". They consist of some villages near the hills to which the Government attaches great importance from their situation near the frontier, of some villages belonging to the pergunnah of Ashti to the west of the Wardha and very near Ellichpore and to the mud fort of Amner on the Wardha". (Letter from Sydenham to Elphinstone, dated 18th January 1805). The Nizam was unwilling to cede these purgannahs except as jagirs to the son of the Rajah of Berar. But as the Bhonsla was not prepared to accept the territory on that condition, further negotiations were dropped. There was also some dispute regarding the possession of certain jagirs granted to the Bhonsla's ministers in Berar by General Wellesley. Raja Mahipat Ram, Nizam's Agent in Berar, ordered the confiscation of these jagirs (Elphinstone to Col. Close, dated 28th January 1805) in spite of the remonstrances of Elphinstone.

British-Nizam Relations

During this period there were two Prime Ministers of the Nizam and three British Residents at Hyderabad. On the 9th May 1804 died Azim-ul-Umrah and his place was taken by Meer Allum as the Nizam's Prime Minister. Col. Kirkpatrick, Resident in Hyderabad, had proceeded on leave about the middle of 1805 owing to ill-health and during his absence Mr. Henry Russell acted as Resident. In October 1805, Col. Kirkpatrick died and on 3rd November 1805 Capt. Sydenham took charge of the Residency at Hyderabad from Mr. Russell.

After the conclusion of the Second Maratha War, the territories of the Nizam were extended by the gift of Berar which the British had forced the Bhonsla to cede to them. It was then realized by the British Resident that the Subsidiary Army of 15 000 maintained in Hyderabad would not be sufficient for purposes of internal peace and order and of defence when the Nizam's dominions included Berar. Therefore the Resident proposed that a Sildidar contingent of 10 000 Cavalry should be formed and to that extent the military establishment maintained by jagirdars could be reduced. The contingent was to be divided into ten Risalahs and stationed in different parts of Berar. At first the Nizam showed his approbation of the scheme but on the advice of certain miscreants subsequently rejected it. The British Resident did not seek to enforce it because of the non intervention policy of Lord Cornwallis. Soon after matters in Hyderabad took a dangerous turn when Raja Mahipat Ram came from Berar to the Court and conspired to monopolise the confidence of the Nizam and paralyse the prestige of Meer Allum. It ended with the transfer of Mahipat Ram to Berar and the appointment of Raja Chandu Lal as the Peshkar of Meer Allum. Mahipat Ram undertook to raise and maintain 10 000 Sildidar horse out of the revenues of Berar and Capt. Sydenham reported in his letter dated 31st May 1806 that the requisite number of troops had been divided into ten bodies of one thousand each under the command of a native officer. But he doubted if that served any useful purpose since they were the troops which were already in Berar and which were brought together under the name of a Sildidar establishment. His idea was that the direction control and payment of the force are to be entrusted to an European officer of rank and credit and then alone it could be effective. A little later occurred the mutiny at Vellore. This created a situation that was exploited by some miscreants of the city in the employ of Raja Rao Rumbha and Noor ul Umrah who excited them to revolt. No untoward developments occurred due to the politic measures of the commandant of the force. Subsequent enquiry revealed that Raja Rao Rumbha and Noor ul Umrah were involved in alienating the loyalty of the troops. The former was banished to his jagir and the latter ordered to retire to his native country near Delhi by the Nizam. But shortly after due to the machinations of Mahipat Ram and certain other nobles of the court the Nizam changed his mind about Noor ul Umrah and even went to the extent of insulting the British Resident when the latter sought an interview with him. That stiffened the attitude of the British Resident and of the Governor General Sir George Barlow who now realized that the policy of non intervention could not be followed any longer without undermining the prestige of the British Government. As a result of this attitude conveyed in a letter from the Governor General to the Nizam the latter climbed down agreed to dismiss Raja Mahipat Ram appoint Raja Govind Bux in his place in Berar pension off Noor ul Umrah who was directed to retire to Aurangabad and to adopt certain other measures in the interest of good administration (Enclosure No 2 to letter No 33). That was the end of the affair and that in brief indicates the nature of British relations with the Nizam.

Relations with the Holkar

The documents regarding Jaswant Rao Holkar start from 25th August 1805 when he is reported to have left Rewaree in Rajputana. He had failed to persuade Dowlat Rao Sindbia to join him in carrying out his hostile designs against the British. Pursued by the British troops he had decided to leave his family and baggage in Ajmer and proceed to the Punjab to seek assistance from the Sikh Chiefs. In October he was reported in Patiala which he left on the 6th November and headed towards the Sutlej which he crossed on the 22nd and 23rd November. For fear of the British troops

under Lord Lake, pursuing him he continued his flight through the country beyond the Sutlej with the intention of receiving "aid from Ranjit Singh of Lahore and the Afghan monarch of Kabul" In December he met Ranjit Singh at Amritsar and agreed to adopt the Sikh religion if he received Ranjit Singh's help "In consequence of this meeting which seemed to indicate the probability of the junction of the Sikh forces with those of Holkar, in order to act against the British Army, Rajah Bhag Singh, uncle of Ranjit Singh, then in the British Camp, was dispatched to Amritsar by Lord Lake in order to warn his nephew against the fatal consequences which might result to him from adopting such a decided system of hostilities against the English Government" With great difficulty Bhag Singh accomplished the desired object and "it was settled that Holkar should be desired to quit Ranjit Singh's territory immediately, and that as soon as he had evacuated it completely, the English would do so likewise" (Enclosure to letter, dated 11th March 1806) He had even sent agents to seek the assistance of the French as reported by Col Close in his letters, dated 20th November and 15th December 1805 That was also of no avail to him Having been disappointed from all quarters and owing to the difficulties of money for the payment and maintenance of his troops, he opened negotiations for a peace with the British The peace was concluded on 6th January 1806 after prolonged discussions But there remained some disputes pertaining to the cession of certain territories in the Deccan to be decided There was some trouble in the Kotah pergunnah of Bundelkhand in which the troops of one Gulab Rao, posted at Malharganj, as the Agent of Jaswant Rao, came into conflict with the British troops under Col James, with painful consequences to the former (Letter, dated 21st October 1806) But apart from those petty and passing incidents of conflicting interest there was no outstanding cause of complaint or misunderstanding on both sides

British-Sindhia Relations

The treaty of Surji Anjangaon concluded the war with Dowlat Rao Sindhia That was in December 1803 The strength and equipment of Sindhia's forces during the war, as they were after his defeat at Assaye, are indicated in an interesting document, dated 15th October 1803 After the treaty of peace John Malcolm was appointed Resident at the court of Dowlat Rao Sindhia His impression of the character and ability of the Sindhia, and his accounts of the condition of his army and government are contained in his letter to the Governor-General, dated 6th February 1804 About Dowlat Rao, Malcolm writes as follows

The Sindhia "still continues to prefer indulgence in pleasure to occupation in business, and the pursuits of amusements to the cares of Government, and consequently leaves, the administration of all public affairs in the hands of ministers agreeably to whose acts, he at one time appears mild and generous, and at another cruel and avaricious" The cause of the discontent and demoralization of the army after his defeat at Assaye is thus described by Malcolm, "He went so far after the action of Assaye (at which his personal gallantry was conspicuous) as to beat with his own hand one of his principal Sardars of his Sillahdar horse on several occasions with ruthlessness and contempt and by this conduct alienated many from their attachment and increased the spirit of mutiny and disaffection, which had long pervaded the majority of that part of his army who are at present upwards of fifteen months in arrears To this violence in the conduct of Dowlat Rao Sindhia, the defection of the Hindustan Chiefs Mohammed Khan Afrudee, Barkander Khan, Kummerud Din Khan and others who have left his army with fifteen thousand horse a few days after the battle of Assaye, may in some degree be attributed, through this defection has beer

generally imputed to the impression which the success of that action made upon these chiefs and to the fall of the Prime Minister Yadoo Rao Bhaskar, whose personal influence and authority was very great and whose death caused a derangement in the affairs of Dowlat Rao which is yet far from being remedied.

With regard to the civil administration, there was much confusion due to the lack of power and security of tenure enjoyed by the ministers. Bapu Vithal Mahadeo became Prime Minister after the death of Yadoo Rao Bhaskar. The territories in Malwa and Khandesh were in a very desolate state.

It is amusing to learn how by the seventh article of the treaty of peace certain persons of note named by Maharaja Dowlat Rao received jagirs of the value of fifteen lacs a year from the British. Their names are mentioned in the letter dated 17th February 1801.

One of the incidents that gave considerable offence to the British was the plunder of the camp of the British Resident (Mr R. Jenkins acting in the place of Mr. Malcolm) by the Pindaris instigated by Sarji Rao Ghatgay Daulat Rao's father-in-law. At the time of the plunder the Resident was in the train of Daulat Rao within a mile from the latter's camp. The Sindhia expressed the utmost sorrow and regret and promised to restore the whole of the property. (From Jenkins to Edmonstone dated 26th January 1805.) At this time the Sindhia was in Saugor trying to capture the fort. Acting on the advice of Sarji Rao Ghatgay he was inclined to join Jawant Rao Holkar. The Resident had tried to dissuade him from this course and since the Sindhia would not listen threatened to withdraw from his court. It was at this juncture that the plunder of Jenkins' camp took place. On the 8th February Jenkins reported that Doulat Rao was secretly in league with the Holkar and Ameer Khan for purposes decidedly hostile to the British Government. On the 23rd March 1805 Jenkins reported that Doulat Rao had determined to proceed directly to Bharatpur for the purpose of offering mediation between Jawant Rao Holkar and the British Government. But since Jenkins told Sindhia that the British Government required or admitted the arbitration of no state whatever, Doulat Rao Sindhia abandoned his intention of marching to the neighbourhood of Bharatpur. But he deputed his Prime Minister Sarji Rao Ghatgay with a large body of Pindaris and a considerable part of the horse of Sindhia's Camp on the 7th April. Jenkins expressed his disapproval of this measure also to the Sindhia and reported the matter to the Governor-General. These proceedings of the Sindhia brought his relations with the British almost to a breaking point but recourse to hostilities was avoided owing to the patience and moderation of the Governor-General in Council and the continuance of financial difficulties of Doulat Rao. (Letter from the Governor-General to Lord Lake dated 25th June 1805.) On the 27th June Jenkins reported with satisfaction that Ambaji Inglia had been released from confinement and was likely to succeed Sarji Rao Ghatgay as Prime Minister while Sarji Rao was expected to quit the camp and proceed to Poona. Due to the unfavourable state of affairs at the court of Sindhia that preceded and followed the attack of the Pindaris on the camp of Jenkins on the 26th January 1805 it had been decided to withdraw the Residency. Doulat Rao had been requested to permit the Resident and the officers attached to the Residency to withdraw. But the Sindhia had persistently evaded the request of the British till at length the patience of Wellesley was at an end. Therefore in his letter to the Sindhia dated 25th July 1805, he demanded that the British Resident with his staff should be allowed to return within a fortnight after the receipt of the letter by the Sindhia failing which war will be declared against him. On the 7th September

Jenkins was still with Sindhia encamped between Rewari and Ajmer, while Jeswant Rao Holkar was "about 5 coss on this side of Ajmer". On the 14th September Jenkins reported that the day before, Sindhia, perhaps on the advice of Ambaji Inglia, had permitted the withdrawal of the British Resident and that he was commencing his march to the British Army headquarters at Mathura on the 15th September. As he left the court he was accompanied by Sindhia's Munshi, Kamal Nain, to discuss matters with Lord Lake. In the meanwhile Wellesley had gone and Cornwallis had come for the second time. With the conciliatory attitude adopted by him, the points of dispute arising after the treaty of Surji Anjangaon were readily adjusted (Letter from Edmonstone to Sindhia, dated 4th April 1805, and to Elphinstone, dated 8th April 1805), and on the 22nd November 1805 a fresh treaty was concluded embodying these adjustments. Cornwallis died on the 5th October 1805, and Barlow, who succeeded him as Governor-General, followed the policy outlined by him. A new Resident, Mr G. Mercer, was appointed at the court of Doulat Rao, a treaty was concluded with Holkar, and Sarji Rao Ghatgay was allowed to find shelter with the Holkar. Under the protection of Holkar he plundered certain pergunnahs of Udaipur and requested the Sindhia to grant him Bhilsa as a jagir. Doulat Rao was not willing to grant this request of his father-in-law and made a proposal to the Holkar that he might give Ajmer to Sarji Rao. (Letter from Mercer to the Governor-General, dated 12th July 1806.) This brings us to the end of the year 1806.

Poona Court.

The treaty of Bassein was concluded with the Peshwa by Col. Close on the last day of the year 1802. Later Capt. Sydenham was appointed temporarily as the Resident at Poona in the place of Col. Close. In an interview that Capt. Sydenham had with the Peshwa, the latter expressed freely his opinion of the Sindhia and Holkar. He said "Sindhia is a weak foolish boy, who is himself incapable of government and is led by the advice of others. If his servants advise well, he acts well, if his servants advise ill, he acts ill. Great crimes are committed by his Government but he himself is faithless. Holkar is a bad man from his heart. He is a monster who must be destroyed. Sarji Rao Ghatgay is almost worse than Holkar." (Letter from Sydenham to the Governor-General, dated 27th May 1805.) In June the Resident reported to the Governor-General that there had been discovered a clandestine correspondence between Moro Pant Phadke and one Anand Rao, who was in the service of Raja Raghottam Rao of Hyderabad, and having left his service was living in Poona. Even the Peshwa's Minister, Sadashiv Rao Mankeshwar, was involved. The correspondence, between these and the Sindhia and Holkar, was aimed at undermining the British ascendancy at the Poona Court. Khande Rao Rastiah, who was in charge of the administration in Konkan, gave information of this correspondence to Capt. Sydenham. A little later, Col. Close returned to resume his duties as Resident. Soon after he endeavoured to impress upon the Peshwa the necessity of removing certain undesirable officers. The Peshwa on his part removed Ramchandra Lagoo from the administration of Savanore, and requested the British to take over the management of that part of Bundelkhand and the adjoining districts which had been assigned to Shamsher Bahadur by the Peshwa. (From Close to the Governor-General, dated 20th July 1805.) By the end of July 1805 the Resident suggested to the ministers of the Peshwa that according to the agreement between the Peshwa's brother Amrut Rao and Major-General Wellesley, the former might be given an annual pension of eight lacs. Amrut Rao had been put against Bajirao II for the Peshwaship by Doulat Rao on the eve of the Second Maratha War. He had been for some time living in Benares and the British had been

supporting him. When the British Resident wanted that the question of his pension might be settled, the ministers of the Peshwa suggested that the northern territories of the Peshwa comprising Bundelkhand, Kalpee etc. might be managed by the Company and the pension to Amrut Rao might be paid out of their revenues. The Resident suggested Savanore and other southern territories for the same purpose. The matter was later placed before the Peshwa and when in late November 1805 the British Resident discussed it with the Peshwa he seemed agreeable to a reconciliation with his brother and to assign a pension to him. In the mean while Amrut Rao had returned to Poona and owing to the efforts of the Resident it was ultimately decided that the Peshwa should grant a pension of two lacs to his brother and that the latter should be satisfied with it (from Col Close to Elphinstone dated 18th December 1805 and the enclosures).

During the year 1805 the Resident often reported to the Governor-General about the agents of the Holkar seeking to contact the Peshwa, his ministers and officers with a view to weaning them away from their attachment to the British. He had also reported about the internal affairs and mal administration in the Peshwa's dominions. But Cornwallis had directed him to abstain from interfering in the internal concerns of the Poona State. (Col Close to Cornwallis dated 13th September 1805). That was the Cornwallis's policy of non intervention. There was nothing further of any interest regarding the Poona Court in the period under review.

This is a general survey of some of the important facts of the contemporary history gleaned from the Selections printed in this volume.

As I send these pages to the Press I am overpowered by a sense of gratitude to the old and revered Premier of this Province, Honourable Pandit Ravi Shankar Shukla whose interest in this publication scheme is reflected in the Foreword he has written to this volume. Lastly I hope these Selections will fulfil to some extent the long-felt national need for correctly visualising our past and rewriting our history. I am aware of the many deficiencies in this work, which are due to certain limitations. For one thing the selection had to be made at a pretty rapid pace owing to the fast deteriorating condition of the documents. Further since I am alone doing this work in addition to my official duties I could not undertake the editing of the documents. For one cannot hope to bring out in a year's time a volume of more than five hundred printed pages containing documents selected from an enormous mass of records and also edited with explanatory notes, biographical and other sketches, glossaries etc. My purpose was to prepare a volume of selections only and if that purpose is judged to have been served I am content.

My wife and some friends have been very helpful in the preparation of this volume at its various stages. My thanks to them. The Superintendent, the Deputy Superintendent and the staff of the Government Press have done all they could to see it through for which I am grateful. In spite of their efforts some printing mistakes have remained and it is hoped that the second volume which they are taking up very soon will have no such mistakes.

NAGPUR

H N SINHA

Dashera the 1st October 1949

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NAGPUR RESIDENCY

Letter No. 1.—In this letter Colebrooke informs the Governor-General that he arrived at Nagpur, on the 18th March 1799, and paid a visit to Raghoji Bhonsla, on the 19th March 1799

FROM—H T COLEBROOKE, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

TO—THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL, RIGHT HON'BLE EARL OF MORINGTON, CALCUTTA

Nagpur, 19th March 1799

I have the honour to acquaint your Lordship that I yesterday arrived at Nagpur and today paid the Raja my first visit as he had appointed by a message received several days since. I had the honour to deliver your Lordship's letter which was received and read with much respect and the Raja expressed his acknowledgments in a suitable manner. As the subsequent conversation, this being a first visit was necessarily confined to general topics, nothing further passed of sufficient moment to be reported to your Lordship, but I cannot omit mentioning that the utmost attention has been given to my accommodation throughout the Raja's own territories and that in my reception distinguished politeness has been shown by him.

The Raja who had accompanied a part of his family several days journey towards Cuttack only returned to this neighbourhood on the 14th and to his palace on the 17th instant. It has been his intention to conclude the celebration of the Holi festival before his return. I was, therefore, to quit the nearest road from Ruttanpore to Nagpur for a more circuitous one which would coincide with the line on which he travelled and I was again obliged to alter my route more than once to follow the change of his movements. This circumstance has contributed to delay my arrival beyond the time in which I had hoped to reach this Durbar.

As some days yet remain before the conclusion of the Holi, it is not probable that any communication of importance should be made or received at this Durbar in the interval.

Letter No. 2.—Edmonstone suggests the withdrawal of the Residency from Nagpur and therefore, withdrawal of Colebrooke

FROM—N B EDMONSTONE, SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

TO—H COLEBROOKE, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

Fort William, 15th April 1801

I have received your several letters noted in the margin.

The conduct of the Raja of Bejar, during the whole of the negotiations appears to me to have been insincere and illusory. He seems at no period of time to have been really desirous of becoming a party of the General Defensive Alliance concluded with His Highness the Nizam. It appears to have been the Raja's policy to render his negotiation with the British Government subservient to his particular views at the Court of Poona; but whatever may be the Raja's real dispositions and designs, the importance of his becoming a party to the alliance, is greatly diminished by the

altered state of circumstances Your mission has already produced as much benefit to the interest of the Company as could reasonably be expected by your longer continuance

I have therefore resolved to withdraw the Residency from Nagpur. You will receive from the Persian Department a letter from me to the Raja's address announcing your recall. You will accordingly quit Nagpur on your return to the Presidency as soon after your delivery of that letter as you may find convenient

I have great pleasure in communicating to you my entire approbation of your conduct and my sense of your zeal, diligence and ability during the whole of your residence at the Court of Berar

I shall direct the Residency at Poona to make such provisions as may be necessary for the conduct of the political relations of the British Government with the Court of Nagpur and for obtaining intelligence of its views

Letter No 3—Colebrooke reports what transpired at his Interview with Raghooj including the suggestion from the latter of sending an agent to the Governor-General

FROM—H COLEBROOKE RESIDENT AT NAGPUR
TO—MARQUIS WILLESLEY GOVERNOR GENERAL

Nagpur, 17th May 1801

2 Being already apprised of the Raja's intention I waited the conclusion of this discourse and then replied to the close of it only. I was equally unwilling to express any reliance on his assurances or to hint the knowledge of their real value. The Raja's true motives for appointing a new Vakeel are dissatisfaction with his present agent Bissamber Pundit and a wish to preserve the appearance of negotiation with the British Government until he has thereby effected his objects with the Court of Poona. I thought it necessary not to encourage the mission of a Vakeel appointed on these motives. I therefore declined the proposal after a compliment to Bhagajee Pundit and assigned as reasons that it is usual previously to notify an intended mission of a public Minister and that my own journey would probably be furnished by Dawl. The further conversation at this interview was confined to reciprocal assurances of esteem and regard

3 The Raja has appointed this evening for my final audience and tomorrow for the return of the visit in my own tent. I shall have the honour to submit for your Lordship's sanction an account of the presents which will be made to the Raja and his family on this occasion. The account will be laid before your Lordship by the Persian Translator

Letter No 4—Colebrooke reports what transpired at the last visit of the confidential agent of Vyankooj when he had left Nagpur

FROM—H COLEBROOKE RESIDENT AT NAGPUR,
TO—MARQUIS WILLESLEY GOVERNOR GENERAL

Camp at Dongerial 22nd May 1801

Vincajee's confidential agent made his last visit to me at my tent after I had marched one stage from Nagpur. In a long conversation he added little to his former communications. However he affirmed in direct terms

that Raja Raghojee Bhonsla does intend to meet the Peshwa at the general convention of Mahratta Chiefs on the banks of the Godavery 'It is not possible he said to foretell the precise result of deliberations among chieftains, whose views are in some respect incompatible though in others tending towards the same objects All harbour designs which are injurious to the Company but which are so in various degrees Whether they will adopt a consistent plan, seems doubtful, but the British Government should be on its guard, and Vincajee is solicitous to merit its favour by rendering important services to the Company at this juncture

2. I again endeavoured to hint a communication of facts and details and at length said, that however readily I might give credit to his opinions and assertions, and confidently draw inferences from hints delivered in metaphor and parable, yet my conviction would avail nothing It was necessary that I should be furnished with evidence and means of proof to convince my superiors

3 He replied, that proof would appear within a few months, and evidence would arise of its own accord It is only when the exigency should be apparent, that Vincajee can expect his services to be accepted or his wishes to be complied with In the meantime, and to pave the way for concert when necessary, he is desirous of opening a friendly correspondence with your Lordship, in which nothing will be for the present introduced, but customary phrases of compliment

4. It is probable that Vincajee's agent and perhaps himself also, are unable to furnish more positive and detailed information than that which has been received from them Finding it impossible to extort more explicit intelligence, I ceased to urge it, but gave encouragement to the agent to hope that a mere complimentary letter, from Vincajee to your Lordship were to be honoured with a complimentary answer

5 Though I have not succeeded in obtaining through this channel, full information as with reasons might be expected, yet I hope to be honoured with your Lordship's approbation of my conduct in the delicate situation, in which I have been placed by these private messages sent by Vincajee At the close of this I leave him disposed to avail himself of encouragement, which your Lordship may find it expedient to give yet I have neither flattered his hopes, nor excited his expectations, on the contrary sufficient demonstrations have been given him of an aversion from intrigue

Letter No. 5 — Arthur Wellesley writes that he has appointed Elphinstone as Resident at Nagpur, pending the arrival of Mr Webbe, Mr Elphinstone is desired to meet the Bhonsla and induce him to have confidence in the good faith and friendship of the British He is required further to report the details of the army and military organisation of the Bhonsla, and to establish postal communications between Nagpur, Cuttack, Hyderabad and Amraoti.

FROM—ARTHUR WELLESLEY,

TO—M ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

24th December 1803

Peace having been concluded with the Raja of Berar, I have appointed you to go to the Camp of that Chief and act as Resident till the arrival of Mr Webbe

You will accordingly commence your march as soon as will be convenient to you attended by the troops appointed in this day's orders at your escort.

A principal object of your attention on your arrival in the Camp of the Raja of Berar should be to endeavour to convince him of the sincere desire of the British Government to consolidate the peace. You will omit no opportunity of assuring him that the British Government is desirous that he should continue a respectable power in India, and that if he should fulfil the articles of the peace and perform the common duties of friendship the British Government will never break with him.

If he should make any propositions such as you have heard his Vakeels make in the conferences during the negotiations to draw more closely the alliance between the two Governments you will encourage him to speak plainly upon that subject. Inform him that it is probable His Excellency the Governor General will be inclined to attend to his wishes provided you are enabled to state them to him distinctly at the same time apprise him that all Governments must consider their own interests in such a case and unless bound by previous engagements it might be possible that to give him assistance in the moment of danger might be inconsistent with those of the British Government.

On this ground you will urge to the Raja the necessity of providing by previous engagements for the support and assistance of the British Government and of his stating his wishes upon this point in the most distinct manner.

Another object which I recommend to your attention is to see that the articles of the peace are carried into execution.

It is not impossible but that the Aumildars and Sirdars in the Province of Berar will be unwilling to withdraw and that the person appointed to take charge of it will complain to you of their delays, and of the irregularities of their troops and of those of the Raja upon the borders. In every such case you will remonstrate in the strongest manner in the name of the British Government.

You will require the Raja to give into your hands written orders addressed to the persons complained of and messengers of his to carry them and you will apprise him of my determination to facilitate in the manner which I may think most efficacious any injury done to the territories ceded by the treaty.

I think there is every reason to believe that the Raja is sincere in his desire for peace with the British Government and that he will adhere to his treaty even if the war should continue with Sindia. But his treachery is notorious and the sacrifices which he has made are very great and he might be induced to renew the war in the hopes to regain part of what he has lost. For this reason it is necessary that you should do everything in your power to be accurately informed of all that passes in his durbar particularly with the Emissaries of Sindia and Holkar and the Southern Chiefs.

Endeavour to obtain an accurate account of the numbers and description and disposition of the Raja's Armies discover the movements of each corps and endeavour to trace the causes of them and if you should find the movements of the troops to correspond with the intelligence you may receive of the intrigues carrying on in the durbar with the Emissaries of Sindia and Holkar you must remonstrate without loss of time and point out to the Raja the certain loss of his Government which must be the consequence of a renewal of the war.

An accurate knowledge of the numbers description and disposition of the troops will enable you to judge not only of the truth of any report you may receive of the existence of intrigues between Raghojee Bhonsla and Sindia and Holkar and of Raghojee's intention to renew the war but also of the fact whether he does or does not impede the Subah Officer in the settlement of the countries ceded by the treaty of peace.

It is very desirable also that you should endeavour to ascertain the extent of the Raja's resources, the amount of his revenue, from what source it is derived and how collected, and the nature of his tenure of the different portions of territory still remaining in his possession. It is obvious, however, that much information upon these last mentioned extensive and intricate subjects cannot be acquired for a great length of time and indeed it does not appear to be an object of such consequence at this moment as to obtain information regarding the communication with Sindia and Holkar, and of the strength and position of the troops.

In regard to the mode of acquiring this intelligence, I have but little to say. You must employ those which your own experience and discretion will suggest and as I know that no intelligence can be gained without expense, I beg you to incur such as you may think absolutely necessary to obtain that which is required. I beg leave also to recommend to you as much as possible, a constant personal intercourse with the ministers of Raghojee Bhonsla's durbar, instead of communicating by means of any native servants. The establishments of this mode of communicating at any early period if it does not immediately lay open to your sources of information which would otherwise be wanted will at least give the Government the advantage of them hereafter.

It is vain to hope that any native in the situation of a minister at a durbar will ever trust another in the situation of a servant to the British Resident, and it is equally so to hope that the British Resident will ever be able to gain any useful intelligence from the ministers at any durbar, if his intercourse with them is to be a matter of state or parade, or anything but a daily occurrence for the transaction of the daily business.

I, therefore, most earnestly recommend it to you to establish this intercourse with the Durbar of Raghojee Bhonsla, without loss of time, as a measure from which may be derived immediately all the information which can be required and at all events from which the best consequences may be expected hereafter.

I request you to make me acquainted with all that occurs and you will make your reports regularly to His Excellency the Governor-General.

It is desirable that if possible you should establish a Dak from Nagpur to Cuttack and another from Nagpur to Hyderabad. The latter will not be a matter of much difficulty as the road for the greatest part runs through the territories of the Soubah of the Deccan. You will press these points upon the Raja's ministers and urge them particularly as being the consequence of the 9th article of the treaty of peace, but if they should refuse to allow of these establishments or should secretly defeat their objects which is not impossible, you might run a Dak from Hyderabad to Amraoti, or any other principal place nearer Nagpur on the frontier and communicate with such place by means of daily Cossids.

In pressing this point and indeed every other detailed in this letter on the Raja's ministers, it is scarcely necessary that I should urge you to adopt the most conciliatory language and manners. Those qualifications which have induced me to send you upon this important mission and to recommend you to His Excellency the Governor-General, give me full confidence that everything in your power will be done to conciliate the Raja to the British Government and to diminish the acuteness of his feelings upon the occasion of his late misfortunes and losses by the war.

Enclosed you have Persian, Marhatta and English copies of the treaty of peace. As soon as it can be copied I will send you a copy of the memorandum of the conference with Jeshwant Rao Ramchander.

Letter No 6 — Russell conveys personal regrets on the death of Cornwallis and of Lt Colonel Kirkpatrick the late Resident at Hyderabad
 FROM—HENRY RUSSELL ACTING RESIDENT AT HYDERABAD

TO—SIR G H BARIOU BART GOVERNOR GENERAL

Hyderabad 3rd November 1805

On the 31st ultimo the afflicting intelligence of the decease of the Marquis Cornwallis, arrived at Hyderabad I immediately announced it to Meer Allum and received from him a communication expressive of the sentiments of sorrow and regret with which that melancholy event had impressed His Highness the Soubahdar himself His Highness deeply lamented the loss of a great and virtuous public character and directed that every tribute of respect might be paid to his revered memory Minute guns were fired from the walls of the city and the forms prescribed by the orders of the Government were observed both at the Residency and in the British lines

2 In a few hours after those melancholy ceremonies had been concluded it became necessary to renew them on an occasion where the sentiments of public regret were aggravated by the pains of domestic affliction The intimation of the decease of Lieut Colonel Kirkpatrick the late Resident at Hyderabad was received by His Highness the Soubahdar with expression of the most poignant grief and diffused on universal gloom over every individual at the Durbar

Letter No 7 —The writer reports that he arrived at Hyderabad on the 3rd January and took charge as the Resident from Mr Russell

FROM—T SYDENHAM RESIDENT AT HYDERABAD

TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL

Hyderabad 4th January 1806

I have the honour to report to you that I arrived at Hyderabad yesterday evening and that I have received the charge of this Residency from Mr Russell I was met on the road and escorted to the Residency by a party of the Nizam's Horse and immediately after my arrival I addressed the usual note to the minister announcing to him that circumstance and requesting that it might be communicated to His Highness the Soubahdar This morning I received the reply of the minister written in the customary terms of congratulation and compliment

2 I have this moment received a second note from the minister acquainting me that His Highness the Soubahdar had fixed upon tomorrow for my being introduced to him and I shall then present to His Highness the credentials of my appointment and the several letters to His Highness and the minister which I have received from Mr Russell

Letter No 8 —Lt. Lloyd reports that he is shortly to march from Barrackpore to Nagpur in command of the Escort meant for the Resident there

FROM—LT WILLIAM LLOYD COMMANDING NAGPUR ESCORT FORT WILLIAM

TO—THE HONBLE M H PIPPHINSTONE BRITISH RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

Fort William 9th January 1806

It is with much pleasure I now do myself the honour of informing you that in the course of eight or ten days I expect to commence my march from Barrackpore to Nagpur in command of the Escort intended for the Resident at the Court of the Rajah of Berar The Escort is to consist of two complete companies of sepoys volunteers from the different Native Corps at the Presidency station

I will in a day or two do myself the honour of transmitting to you extracts of the General Orders, that have lately been issued relative to the Escort

The Route the Detachment will march is the same as the one I had the pleasure of forwarding to you some time ago, that is by Hazaribagh and Sambalpoore

Letter No 9.—The letter intimates the outbreak of a mutiny of some of the Native troops at Vellore, on the morning of 10th July 1806.

FROM—N B EDMONSTONE, SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT, FORT WILLIAM,

TO—M ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

Fort William, 27th July 1806

I am directed to transmit to you the enclosed copy of a dispatch from the Right Hon'ble the Governor-General in Council, Fort St George, communicating the circumstances of a mutiny of some of the native troops in Garrison at Vellore which occurred on the morning of the 10th instant

2 The object of communicating to you this information is to enable you to counteract any reports which may prevail inconsistent with the real facts of this unfortunate event

You will infer from the enclosed documents that the disturbance has been merely local and that is ceased with the recapture of the fort and the destruction of the insurgents

Letter No 10.—The letter conveys the issue of certificates in favour of Ramchandra Madho Rao and Janardan Lachman for remission of duties on pilgrims when they visit Allahabad, Benares and Gaya. Incidentally it shows that there were duties on pilgrims to holy places. Janardan Lachman was a brother of Bhonsla's Minister Shridhar Pandit

FROM—J MONCKTON, PERSIAN SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

TO—M ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

Fort William, 14th October 1806

I am directed to transmit to you the enclosed letters from the Hon'ble the Governor-General to His Highness the Raja of Nagpore and His Highness's Minister Sreedhar Pundit, in reply to those which were transmitted in your dispatch addressed to the Secretary to Government in the Secret Department, under date, the 16th ultimo

2 Copies of the Governor-General's letter to the Raja and his Minister in the English and Persian languages, accompany for your information

3 I am further directed to transmit to you, for the purpose of being delivered to Ramchander Madhoo Rao and Janardan Lachman, the certificate of the duties on pilgrims at Gaya, and Allahabad, having been remitted in favour of them and their followers by order of the Governor-General in Council, together with duplicates of the letters which have been addressed to the different authorities at Gaya, Allahabad and Benares, directing them to manifest towards Ramchander and Janardan every degree of civility, respect, and attention, during their continuance at those stations, and to afford them every facility in their progress through the extent of their respective jurisdictions

4 It is proper to observe that the name of Benares is not included in the certificate because no duties are exacted from pilgrims resorting to that city. You will accordingly be pleased to explain this circumstance to the parties proceeding on that pilgrimage.

Enclosure to the letter

TO—HIS HIGHNESS THE RAJA OF NAGPUR

14th October 1806.

I have had the honour to receive your Highness's letter announcing the intention of Ramchander Madhoo Rao and Janardan Lachman, brother to your Highness's Minister Shreedhar Pundit to perform a pilgrimage to Allahabad, Gaya and Benares and requesting a remission of the usual duties on pilgrims resorting to those places in favour of those persons and 2000 followers (*Vide* letter received 10th October). I have great pleasure in availing myself of every opportunity of manifesting my regard for your Highness and of my disposition to promote your wishes.

I have therefore directed the prescribed certificate exempting pilgrims resorting to Gaya and Allahabad from the payment of duties to be prepared in favour of Ramchander Madhoo Rao and Janardan Lachman and their followers to the extent of 2000 persons and the Resident at your Highness's Court will deliver that certificate to your Highness's Officers for the purpose of being presented by them to the Collectors of Gaya and Allahabad.

The necessary orders have also been issued to the proper officers at Gaya, Allahabad and Benares directing them to manifest towards Ramchander Madhoo Rao and Janardan Lachman every office of civility, respect, and attention suitable to their rank and character and to the friendship subsisting between the two states.

In compliance with your Highness's request duplicates of the orders which have been issued on this subject have been transmitted to Mr Elphinstone for the purpose of being delivered into the hands of Ramchander Madhoo Rao and Janardan Lachman. I trust that the measures which I have adopted for the accommodation of your Highness's Officers on their projected pilgrimage will afford your Highness satisfaction.

Letter No 11 —The letter reports the death of Shah Allum, on the 19th November and the succession of his eldest son

FROM—N B EDMONSTONE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT
TO—M FLPHINSTON^T RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

Fort William 5th December 1806

I am directed to inform you that intelligence has been received of the melancholy event of the decease of His Majesty Shah Allum on the 19th ultimo. Government has thought proper to manifest its respect for the memory of his deceased Majesty by directing minute guns to the number of eighty-two being the number of the years of his late Majesty to be fired from the Ramparts of Fort William and at all the stations of the Army. You will be pleased to communicate to his Highness the intelligence of this event and to inform him that his Royal Highness the Prince Mirza Akbar Shah the eldest son of his late Majesty and nominated by his Majesty to be his heir and successor has ascended the throne of Delhi and assumed the title of Akbar Saooee.

RAGHOJI'S ADMINISTRATION

Letter No. 1.—It is an important letter. Colebrooke briefly alludes to the men of influence with Raghoji II, the strength and composition of his Army and extent and revenues of his dominions

FROM—H COLEBROOKE, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR,

TO—THE RIGHT HON'BLE EARL OF MORNINGTON,
GOVERNOR-GENERAL

Nagpur, the 14th April 1799

I had yesterday the honour to deliver your Lordship's letter to the Raja of Berar which I had received the preceding evening. He expressed in strong terms the great pleasure he derived from the intelligence of so brilliant an advantage gained over the flower of Tippoo's Army and added his acknowledgement for your Lordship's friendly attention in communicating such pleasing intelligence.

Since my last addresses, dated 26th ultimo, nothing further has passed relative to the negotiations opened in the manner, I have the honour to report to your Lordship. During the last ten days the Raja has observed a very austere fast and been continually engaged in devotion on account of the Nauratra anniversary and has been therefore indisposed to give attention to business however important. This may be the reason of his not having yet proposed another private conference and I have refrained from asking one not thinking prudent to show too much eagerness more especially as I have been credibly informed that the Raja expects answers to letters he had written to the Courts of Poona and Hyderabad consulting them on the part he should act in the present posture of affairs.

I have employed the interval in the further prosecution of enquiries on the several points which your Lordship has commanded me to ascertain and report. Though not prepared to lay before you full information on those subjects, I beg leave to submit the result of my enquiries so far as they have been yet successful.

Ragojee Bhonsla though not averse from pleasure and dissipation is attentive to business. He does not entrust any of his ministers with the chief direction, but reserves it in his own hands, consulting however with his three Principal Officers on all matters whether trivial or important. He is chiefly but not exclusively swayed by the advice of Cooshaba Chitnavis, the Moonshee Shreedhar Pundit is also listened to and acts in concert with Cooshaba but the Bukshee Bhowannee Pundit has little influence being rather feared than liked by the Raja and being supported only by his interest with the Raja's mother.

Though Raghojee's Government be strict and in some instances severe his temper is mild and manners popular, his abilities are more solid than brilliant and he appears to be possessed of great prudence, but not without some ambition. It is understood to be his wish to acquire greater weight on the Maratha Empire than he now enjoys, but he has not the active turn which would lead him to seek it with perseverance, by deep intrigues or hazardous measures. He is I believe sincerely attached to the English Government and disposed to adopt such a line of conduct and such measures as may be recommended to him by the Nizam and Nana, whether in regard to the affairs of Poonah or to those in which the British interests are still more intimately concerned. This alliance is I think attainable and may be rendered useful. He has attended more than his predecessors to his Military Establishment and especially to the forming

of a Body of Infantry consisting of two Brigades of Sepoys armed and disciplined on the European model and attended by a train of artillery exist in his own foundries. Among the officers there are 6 or 7 Europeans mostly Englishmen of low origin, who command corps of four or five hundred men each. One of those Brigades is now employed in completing the reduction of Gurrah Munarra the other in chastising a refractory Chief on the frontier of Berar proper. His Cavalry consists of about 20 000 Maliratta Horse with 4 000 Pattans and 1 000 Arabs. The Raja's whole establishment of Horse and Foot is stated at more than 50 000 men. He could probably bring 30 000 into the field.

His resources consist in the Treasure which has been accumulated by himself and his predecessors and in the revenue he draws from his Dominions.

The first he occasionally was (draws?) when his current resources are deficient for his revenue is scarcely equal to his present expenditure.

A great part of his extensive Dominions consists in a mountainous tract of country almost desolate and unproductive. The Nizam participates in the Revenues of Berar proper and the descendant of the ancient Raja has a fourth part of the Revenue of Gondwana. Half of the Chutlis Ghur is the appanage of Raghojee's brother and other dominions are allotted to his own son and to his female relatives. Adverting to these and other circumstances I think his Revenue which is expected to amount to two and half crore of rupees does not in reality much exceed the half of that sum. It is however sufficient to maintain a respectable Military Force which may render the Raja's alliance desirable and his services useful against any present or future enemies of the British Government.

Letter No 2—Colebrooke sends more accurate information on the subject of the Raja of Berar's strength and resources. The information conveyed to the Governor General on the eve of the outbreak of the second Maratha war must have been very useful.

FROM—H COLEBROOKE RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL FORT WILLIAM

Nagpur the 9th August 1799

Having now obtained more accurate information than I had been able to procure when I had the honour to address your Lordship on the subject of the Raja of Berar's strength and resources I beg leave to correct the information then submitted to your Lordship and shall again resume the subject when I have succeeded in procuring authentic returns of his forces and genuine accounts of his revenues. From the nature of the Government I have found it necessary to observe delicacy and precaution in these researches lest the Raja who is punctually informed of every thing done by me should entertain a jealousy of my enquiries but I have at present reason to expect very authentic information through channels which will remain unsuspected.

2 The persons from whom I first received intelligence respecting the Military establishment of Berar stated it to me at its full complement without a sufficient deduction for the deficiencies of the several corps which compose the Raja's Army. Some time ago he raised two brigades the complement of which was fixed at two thousand men each including regular horse, and it was intended to augment their strength to 12 000 men. But neither Brigade has been ever completed nor have they been regularly

recruited Being ill paid, many of the soldiers have deserted or taken their discharge, and the brigades are, from this and other causes, much reduced I consider their strength as overrated at 15,000 men, and I have some grounds for thinking that the aggregate force of both corps falls two or three thousand short of that number The troops are very imperfectly disciplined, and the artillery attached to the Brigades, is far from being well appointed The only conspicuous trial of them, hitherto made was at the siege of Hussingabad and so little progress was then made by the besiegers, that the place, though strong neither by nature nor by art, would not have been taken, had it not been voluntarily surrendered by the garrison, who found themselves abandoned by the Chieftain of Bhopal

3 Besides these Brigades, the Raja of Berar has several Corps, which constitute what might be termed his household troops, namely, a body of Arabs, another of Pathans, one of foot soldiers armed with carbines, a few companies of sepoys clothed as well as armed, after the European model, and several corps of Mahratta horse serving as guards The establishment of infantry under one of the commanders was originally fixed at 4,000 men The remaining corps of infantry never equalled that number All are now much reduced through desertions occasioned by disgust at the want of punctuality in the payment of their allowances

4 The Mahratta horse I am credibly informed, does not now exceed ten thousand Upon intelligence first obtained here, I stated a greater number, but I now find, that the estimate included troops which are employed in the local duties of remote districts, and which cannot be counted in the effective strength of the Raja's Army

5 On reviewing the whole of the information, which I at present possess, there appears sufficient ground for thinking, that the Raja might bring into the field the number of troops mentioned in the letter I had the honour to address your Lordship on the 14th April last, but the utmost strength of his present army does not exceed that force The troops, which compose it, are neither well appointed nor properly disciplined, and the infantry, especially, is far inferior to the regular corps in the service of other native princes, who have engaged European Officers to discipline their forces

6 With my former statement of the amount of the Raja's revenue, I remarked that the information, I had then received, was much exaggerated I am now fully confirmed in that opinion and the most correct intelligence which I have yet obtained leads me to believe that the Raja does not annually realize one crore of rupees His treasure deposited in the fort of Gawil, would be the resource for any unusual exigency and having already recurred to it on two occasions, he would probably do so again upon emergency I have not made it an object of particular enquiry, but its reputed amount is three crores of rupees, and this does not appear an exaggerated estimate when the frugality of his predecessors is remembered

7 I have already had the honour to mention to your Lordship that the troops in the Raja's service are ill paid, the same want of punctuality pervades every department of expenditure It is attended with some degree of meanness in the Raja's dealings with those, who have demands on his treasury and the instances of such meanness, which have come to my knowledge, are so numerous, that I cannot but attribute its prevalency as much to his own temper, as to the disorder, in which his finances are seemingly involved. With the habit of administering his own affairs and attending to the detail of trivial matters as well as important business he could not shut his eyes to any real disorder in his finances and it is difficult to believe he would deliberately frame a scale of expenditure surpassing his

resource while no state exigency calls for extraordinary efforts. Opposing this reflexion to the appearance of pecuniary want I still doubt whether his revenues be really inadequate to his standing expenses (sic) and I beg leave to postpone offering a decided opinion on this point until I have seen the genuine accounts which I hope to procure.

8 The rumour of an intended visit to Poona is still very current among the Raja's own servants and the preparations which are here made apparently for a journey tend to support its credibility. But the ministers continue to deny that any such intention is really entertained. My Moonshi has gathered from their conversation that intelligence has been received from Poona relative to projects there agitated for invading the Nizam's Dominions immediately after the close of the rainy season and I learn through the same channel that Raghojee Bhonsla entertains serious apprehensions of likewise becoming the object of Scindia's ambitious views. Last year whilst Nana was imprisoned Raghojee Bhonsla dropped the expression, that Scindiah was mistaken if he supposed Nana had no defenders for he (Raghojee) would approve himself the true friend of that Minister. This expression was reported to Dowlat Rao and is supposed to have co-operated with other circumstances to embitter the mutual jealousy which previously existed between Sindia and the Bhonsla. I have not yet learnt what further and immediate grounds the Raja has for his present apprehensions.

9 On reverting to the copy of the cyphered dispatch which I had the honour to address to your Lordship under date 25th June I observe the error of a name which I now beg leave to correct. Sridhar Pundit's father was there mentioned by the name of Kishen Row instead of Lachman Pundit. The error arose from an inadvertency in the cyphering of that dispatch for which I beg leave to apologize.

Letter No 3 — In this letter Colebrooke reports the arrival of a Vakeel from Nana Fadnavis and the attitude of Raghoji towards him. He also reports that the troops of Holkar had invaded Bhonsla's territories near Hoshangabad.

FROM—H COLEBROOKE RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

TO—THE RIGHT HONBLE EARL OF MORNINGTON
GOVERNOR GENERAL

Nagpur the 24th September 1799

A fortnight ago I learnt that a Vakeel had arrived at this place from Poona. As he was not received with much distinction and as the same person Narain Rao had been already at this Court as the confidential Agent of Nana I did not pay particular attention to the circumstance until I found that his mission was thought important and that the rumour of an intended journey to Poona was revived in consequence of his arrival. I have since endeavoured to ascertain the object of his mission. The information at first received from different persons, was so very contradictory that it was unfit to be submitted to your Lordship and I therefore postponed reporting the Vakeel's arrival until I could add some probable information of the objects for which he came. At present almost all my informants concur in stating that his errand is to invite Raja Raghojee Bhonsla to visit Poona and assist Maharatta Empire. Whether this be accurate cannot be certainly known but whatever be the message really brought by the Vakeel it is supposed to contain something extremely important to the Raja. This is inferred from his having lately held very frequent consultations with his ministers which are prolonged to a very late hour of the night.

2 I have not thought it expedient to make a direct enquiry from the Raja's ministers, lest it should seem to indicate a jealousy of the Raja's connections with Poona, but I directed my Moonshee to enquire indirectly from Sridhar Pundit. From his answer I learn that Narain Rao is come in no other than his former capacity of Agent on the part of Nana. I infer from the single fact that the various rumours, occasioned by his coming, are unfounded and that more importance has been attached to it than really belongs to his mission.

3 For several months past a Vakeel from Hyderabad also has attended this court. I did not think his arrival of sufficient importance to be separately reported to your Lordship, because I was credibly informed, that although he was invested with a public character on the part of the Nizam's minister Azim-Ul-Omra, he had no public functions to discharge, and that the object of his journey related solely to matters in which he is himself individually interested, namely to landed property which he holds in the Raja's dominions. Azim-Ul-Omra seems to have conferred a public character on him merely to give him consequence at this place and thereby promote the private business for which he came, and the Raja appears to have indulged his own vanity in receiving him as a Vakeel from the Court of Hyderabad and in detaining him so long although Madho Rao (that is his name) has ever since the commencement of the rainy season urgently solicited his audience of leave.

4 Intelligence has been very lately received that the troops of Holkar (Jeswant Rao Holkar must be the Chieftain meant) have invaded Raja Raghojee Bhonsla's dominions in the neighbourhood of Hoshangabad. They have driven in many of his Tannahs, and plundered the open country. In consequence of this intelligence the Raja has ordered a considerable body of troops to proceed to the frontiers bordering on the Handia and Bhopaltal.

5 He has also sent a smaller detachment of troops towards Cuttack. It is no doubt intended as a reinforcement to the escort which accompanied his mother and brother on a pilgrimage to the temple of Jagannath and the motive for reinforcing their escort may probably be the disputes in which they have been involved at Jagannath and on their way thither. The most recent instance being also the most conspicuous, I beg leave to subjoin a brief account of it. In consequence of an affray between some of their attendants and a few sepoys belonging to the corps stationed in the province of Cuttack and commanded by Kishnmuraj, they have proceeded with great rigour against that officer. After a short and feeble opposition he has been compelled to fly to a place of concealment at or near Narsinghpur whence he has appealed to Raja Raghojee Bhonsla's protection against the vindictive severity of the Raja's mother and brother. In the meantime they have ordered all his property (which is very considerable) to be confiscated. The Raja has, however, answered his application with assurances of personal safety and with encouragement to emerge from his place of concealment, but I have not yet learnt whether the forfeiture will be remitted, nor whether this officer will be reinstated in the command of the troops posted in Cuttack.

6 The Raja has not, since the date of my last address to your Lordship, again touched upon the subject of the suspended negotiation. It is possible, that intelligence lately received from Poona may have made some change in his sentiments, but without more grounds than I at present have, I cannot presume to offer to your Lordship's consideration my opinion on this subject.

Letter No 4—This is an important letter containing information about the affairs of Bhonsla's Government, army resources etc

FROM—H COLTHROCKE RESIDENT AT NAGPUR
TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL, BOMBAY

Nagpur 1st October 1799

I had the honour to acquaint your Lordship in my last address, that the Raja of Berar has sent forces to protect his territories from the depredations of Holkar's troops. I supposed Yeshwant Rao Holkar to be meant because this chieftain has possessions near Hoshangabad and because he lately permitted his people to plunder in the neighbourhood of Ujjain. However I now learn that the persons who have made incursions in the Raja of Berar's territories belong to Carce Rao Holkar who is himself at Poona and is not supposed to have in any manner authorized their present proceedings.

2 The detachment which has marched from this place does not much exceed two thousand infantry. It is accompanied by a small train of artillery and will reinforce a more considerable body of troops already stationed at Gurrah Mandla. Some further arrangements have been made by the Raja of Berar to put other parts of his western frontier in a posture of defence. The detail of these arrangements and the Raja's particular motive for now making them have not yet come to my knowledge. Rumours do indeed prevail for hostilities impending in other quarters besides Hoshangabad but what I have yet heard upon this subject does not appear to me entitled to any credit.

3 The Raja's Moonshee Shirdhar has of his own accord communicated to me the object of Narain Rao's mission to this Durbar. He says that, the habit of mutually communicating all matters of importance being established between this Court and that of Poona it has been thought proper to make the Raja of Berar acquainted with all the particulars of the late arrangements between Sindia and the Bys. Narain Rao has accordingly brought for his perusal documents containing the terms upon which an accommodation has been effected with others explanatory of the transactions which led to the present adjustment. Although this communication has been made voluntarily and with every appearance of candour I do not think it improbable that the chief object of Narain Rao's mission may be different.

4 During the last month and especially since troops have been in motion to proceed towards the frontier I have had better opportunities than before of forming an opinion of the Military strength of this Government. That part of the Raja of Berar's infantry which is armed with muskets though constituting in the Raja's own opinion his chief strength does in reality add little to his Military power. The sepoys are so very imperfectly disciplined that they cannot be said to have learnt the use of fire-arms and they are wholly ignorant of manoeuvres. The corps of dismounted carabineers were it even numerous and disciplined would be insignificant because their arms which are more properly blunderbusses than Carabines are ill suited for a body of infantry. Concerning the corps of Arabs and of Pathians it is sufficient to say that they are armed and accoutred in the oriental manner and are not accustomed to a discipline which can fit them for acting with effect in the field. The Artillery is (as I have already had the honour to inform your Lordship) ill appointed. The guns do indeed appear to be well cast and good cattle is allotted to the ordnance department but the gun-carriages are ill constructed and the ammunition and service of the Artillery have all the defects common to the ordnance of native powers.

5 The Cavalry is the most efficient part of the Raja's military establishment His Pagga horse, and that furnished by Silahdars or partisans, do not seem inferior to the cavalry entertained in the same modes by other Mahratta chieftains but the Pindara or irregular horse adds more to the numbers than to the strength of his Army

6 On this subject I have received some information from an intelligent officer who lately held a principal command in the Raja's service He reckons the whole Military establishment of Berar at 55,000 men including the irregular horse and permanent detachments in Cuttack and in other remote provinces I deem this information correct and your Lordship will perceive that it does not differ materially from that which was formerly submitted to your consideration

7 The radical defect of the Raja's Military establishment appears to be the irregular payment of the Army I am now fully convinced that the Raja's own temper, not the want of funds, is the cause of his withholding their pay from the troops The pecuniary resources are more than sufficient for his expenditure The rental of his possession exclusive of late acquisitions, exhibits a gross revenue of 160 lacs of rupees How much it will be increased by collections from Gurrah Mandla and other recent annexations is not yet accurately known I do not implicitly credit the estimates which have been mentioned to me and which state the revenue expected from Gurrah Mandla, etc, at forty lacs of rupees But upon the review of all the information I have lately obtained, I cannot reckon the gross revenue of the Raja of Berar's territories at an amount much less than two crores of rupees and after making every necessary deduction, the net revenue which is realized by him must be rated higher than was done by me when I had before the honour to address your Lordship upon this subject. It cannot be less than 125 lacs from his ancient dominions and will probably amount to 150 lacs when the revenue of Gurrah Mandla is fully collected

P S I am this moment confirmed in the conjecture mentioned in the 3rd paragraph of this address Sridher has promised a further communication on the subject when the further objects of Narain Rao's mission have been discussed He says, they have not been yet opened to the Raja, but has given no hint of their nature I shall have the honour to address your Lordship as soon as I obtain more certain information on this point

Letter No 5 —Colebrooke casually reports there was a mutiny in Raghojee's Army, the Sikhs having besieged his palace for arrears of pay. He also intimates that Raghojee's Ministers including Shridhar Pandit were to proceed to Poona at the bidding of the Peshwa.

FROM—H COLEBROOKE, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR,

TO—THE MOST NOBLE MARQUIS OF WELLESLEY, K P,
GOVERNOR-GENERAL

Nagpur, 26th January 1801

Raja Raghojee Bhonsla yesterday at noon sent for my Moonshee and desired him to deliver a message acquainting me, that Tuesday which is tomorrow had been that moment fixed upon for the departure of the Ministers deputed to the Court of Poona, when their mission was before in contemplation I was made acquainted with everything relating to it, by my advice it was then postponed but it had been now resolved upon for the transaction of indispensable affairs This information was he said communicated to me conformably with the exigency of friendship, and he desired my Moonshee to convey to Shridhar in the evening the answer I might give

2 I directed the Moonshee to reply that I was much pleased when he repeated to me the mention of friendship and that I wanted to be informed of the present motives for now sending the Ministers to Poona. The delivery of my message to Shridhar yesterday evening was however prevented by the circumstances of the Raja's palace being besieged by a body of Sikhs who have mutinied for their pay. As the Mutiny is not yet quelled I shall not probably receive any further communication respecting this mission and the motive of it before it takes place.

3 To the information which is already before your Lordship imperfect as it is I can yet add no further intelligence but the arrival of an agent from Poona with an answer so far satisfactory to the Raja as to have accelerated his sending the Ministers thither. Your Lordship will remark the careless manner in which the measure has been notified and the Raja's seeming indifference as to the opinion that may be entertained of a step which he has not yet explained.

4 The Raja of Berar has in this instance evidently taken a resolution which is not to be shaken by argument perhaps not even by the strongest remonstrances I could take upon myself to make without your Lordship's special instructions. Nor would any useful purpose be attained by a strenuous opposition to this measure since the Bhonsla could be at no loss for other channels of concerting with the Court of Poona agreements such as he may have in view.

5 Although the present behaviour of the Raja of Berar does not seem conformable with his supposed disposition to cultivate a good understanding with the British Government and to rely on the protection of the Company in case of need yet it is not wholly inconsistent with that disposition as connected with the other views I have been also led to ascribe to this Court. It chiefly proves that the Raja of Berar presumes too much on the alacrity with which he thinks he would be at any time welcomed as an ally by the British Government. I do not find any reason for believing that the Raja of Berar is willing to enter into views of the Peshwa and Sindia inimical to the Company or its allies and the expediency of the measure which I ventured to propose for your Lordship's consideration in the fourth paragraph of despatch dated 21st instant appears to be still further confirmed.

6 Since the foregoing part of this address was written the mutiny having been quelled Shridhar has received the answer to the Raja's message abovementioned. He observed that an urgent requisition having been received from the Peshwa brought by the agent recently arrived from Poona the mission of himself and his colleague is now become unavoidable. He made professions of the Raja's unalterable friendship for the Company and asserted his own reluctance to proceed to Poona could it by any means be avoided. He added that the Raja will this evening appoint an hour for an interview tomorrow.

Letter No 6—Elphinstone reports his arrival within 3 miles of the Bhonsla's camp and says that he was going to meet Raghoji the next day, *i.e.* 31st December. He also mentions that the conditions in Berar were unsettled and that the Raja's troops had been plundering certain places.

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE RESIDENT AT NAGPUR
TO—GENERAL WELLESLEY

Camp at Barwarra 30th December 1803

I arrived here this morning and am now within three miles of the Berar Camp. I wrote Raja on the day before yesterday to say that I was coming.

and that I was anxious to contribute to promote the friendship between his Government and our's and I yesterday received a very civil answer; I have sent a man to settle the time fixed for a visit which I suppose will take place tomorrow. I shall take an early opportunity of requiring the Raja to retire into his own country and to withdraw all his troops. At present he is on this side of the Wurda. His people forage all round the place where I am encamped. This village has very lately been plundered and burnt, and I hear that the Raja's troops are now plundering a place in the neighbourhood. I was informed at Tewsa where I halted yesterday that a party of 2,000 or 3,000 horse under Mallojee Aheer had been detached from the Raja's Army to Ashtee a place 14 miles off beyond the Wurda and some hircarras whom I sent there agree with the people of the country in saying that there is likely to be an action between Mallojee's party and the Nizam's garrison in Ashtee. Mallojee wishes to seize the Patect (Patel?) whom the Nizam's people will not give up. I should be happy to know your intentions about the Nizam's country beyond the Wurda in case any of his people should complain to me. The 4th article of the treaty makes the Wardha the boundary, but I think you told Jeshwant Rao Ramchandra that you did not mean to give up any of the Nizam's territory. I have not yet heard from Raja Maheput Ram about the post which I understood he was to lay from Ellichpore to the borders of the ceded country. I am very happy to hear that you have made such progress in the treaty with Sindia. I hope it is signed by this time.

Letter No. 7.—Elphinstone reports that he met the Bhonsla for the first time in his Camp at Dewalgaon. The Bhonsla was very kindly and polite at the interview. There are certain observations about the personal appearance of the Bhonsla who according to Elphinstone was "a short, fat and dark man rather mean in his appearance."

FROM—M^r S ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR,

TO—GENERAL WELLESLEY

Camp at Dewalgaon, 1st January 1804

I am just returned from a visit to the Raja. On the 30th, when I was about two miles from this camp, I sent a moonshee to the Raja to settle when and how I was to visit him. He talked to him himself and told him that he wished me to pitch nearer him after which he sent two chobdars to point out a place for me to encamp at, next day. I moved ground to this place which is about two miles from the Raja's headquarters. In the evening my moonshee went to the Raja at an hour appointed by the Raja himself, he waited for some time being told the Raja was asleep being taken ill. He begged leave to come away. He had scarce returned to me when Ramchandra's relation who was to have accompanied me came from on, he said that the Raja wished to see me next day at 11 and would show me all the usual attention. Accordingly at 11 today his principal Bukshee Venkat Rao came to my tent with many attendants. Mr Close and Mr Briggs and I went with him to the Raja's. We were received in the most polite and satisfactory manner. I gave the letter to the Raja and after it was read I assured him in the most earnest manner of the desire of every branch of the British Government to maintain and consolidate the peace and that as long as he adhered to it, the British would never infringe it. The Raja on his part expressed himself anxious to preserve the ancient friendship between his Government and the Company and highly gratified by the removal of all disagreements between the two

states. He told me that as this was the first visit he would not talk on business but would send for me and hear in private what I had to communicate from you. He afterwards talked on different subjects asked questions about English manners about the situation of Mr. Close and Mr. Briggs about your health after which he dismissed us in a manner unusually civil. The Raja is a short fat dark man rather mean in his appearance but mild and decent in his behaviour. He does not appear to maintain much state but few people who attend him are well dressed and respectful. I have not been able to obtain any information about the Raja's army through any authentic channel that I have learned is that the regular infantry with the exception of 100 or 200 who attend the Raja's person have been sent to Nagpur that there are two guns here and that all the garrisons have lately quitted the service except 100 or 150 who serve on horse back. I have heard that the Raja is disbanding many troops but that he permits all who wish to leave his army. I have had complaints from people of Ashtee the village beyond the Wurda about which I wrote to you and from those of Coorra a village on this side. I shall take the first opportunity of insisting on the Raja's withdrawing his troops from the ceded country and of pointing out the propriety of his abstaining from interference in the Nizam's old possessions east of the Wurda till your orders can be received. I had a letter from Raja Maheeput Ram about Coorra. This post is laid from Fillehpur and forty runners have joined me so that I am enabled to continue the post when the Raja moves. I shall tomorrow do myself the honour of reporting what has passed to His Excellency the Governor General.

Letter No. 8 — Elphinstone reports about the remnants of Raghoji's Army after he disbanded a part of it at the end of the 2nd Maratha War

FROM—M S FLPHINSTONE RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

TO—MAJOR GENERAL WILLESLEY

Camp at Carnoor 19th January 1804

I have the honor to enclose a letter for His Excellency the Governor General. Jai Kishan Rao's account of the troubles in Hoshangabad is contradictory and differs from the Raja's. The common report is Meer Khan or some other of Holkar's Chiefs has made this invasion under his orders. I understand there are 5 000 horse and 3 000 foot in Hoshangabad already and 3 000 horse and 4 000 foot in Gurrah Mandla to the under Nanar Ghatky. I have got some accounts of a chief named Gopal Bhugwant who is said to be in the Raja of Berar's service acting with the Killedar of Ahmednagar. This is the only part of the intelligence I have got that need be mentioned. I should be happy to hear what Furkia is doing. I am told that he corresponds with the Raja regularly. When anything is heard of Holkar I should wish to hear where he is. He would throw light on everything this man does. I have not observed the smallest wish on the Raja to have a subsidiary force. There is a report that somebody advised the Raja to apply for a battalion or two to send to Hoshangabad but that would not. The best account I have got of the army it makes it consist of 9,350 horse.

I have reason to believe it defective though the number seem so, probable the same account makes the whole infantry consist of 12 Battalions of different strength from 500 to 350. Besides these troops there are 700 horse and 1 000 foot with Zumbul Rao's party (this 1 000 is the 350 I saw) 4 000 horse with Mahjee Ahir and near 10 000 who were in Cuttack. I should be happy to have your orders about the Frenchmen in Berar Raja's service. They seem to be men of inferior rank and at present they are pressing the Raja for their arrears of pay.

Letter No. 19.—Elphinstone reports about the condition of the country, the infantry troops of Raghoji at Nagpur, and a foundry near Nagpur. Rajah Raghoji, he says, had “applied 50 leeches to one of his thighs” perhaps because he was suffering from rheumatic pain.

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR,
TO—MAJOR GENERAL WELLESLEY.

Nagpur, 4th February 1804

I have had the pleasure of receiving your letters of the 26th. I have very little doubt of the reality of the troubles in Hoshangabad. Common report says that the Raja's troops are reduced to great numbers by the rebels. I shall be informed in 10 or 12 days when I expect my news writer to begin his correspondence. I have sent a person to Garrah Mandla but I cannot expect to hear from him for some time. The state of those countries and that of the Raja's army are the points on which I try to get information. The other points are of less importance and I see no prospect of my getting so good information about them, as Mr Close has already obtained. I hear from all quarters that he used to send out Vakeels and make regular surveys of the whole country. I do not like to make enquiries unless they are necessary and likely to be attended with good effect because they excite jealousy and particularly among a people so ignorant and as the Mahrattas and now more than usual when they are irritated and alarmed I do all I can to discover what passes at the Durbar but not important has yet reached me. Perhaps there is nothing important going on. I am informed that the Raja sent hastily to recall a Vakeel named Eswant Omajee who is with Holkar but Holkar's Vakeel is still here and had private interview since the Raja arrived. Nundajee Bascur the brother of Jadhao Rao and formerly Vakeel at Poona is here on Sindia's part. I have lately had an opportunity of seeing about 1,000 of the Raja's infantry exercise. The officers were all native and their manoeuvres were most extraordinary. I am sure that I have seen at least 2,000 regular infantry in two encampments near our houses. In riding this morning I came upon the foundry which is about 12 miles from the town. It is guarded by a small body of infantry. The treaty of peace ratified by His Excellency the Governor-General reached me yesterday from Hyderabad. I sent _____ to ask to see the Raja. He excused himself by saying that he had applied leeches and promised to receive the ratification tomorrow. He really has applied 50 leeches to one of his thighs. The ratification was not accompanied by any letter from Calcutta. I have the pleasure to enclose to you from Gangaram Pundit. It relates to Venkajee Naik, the banker about whose possessions I wrote you before. He now wishes you to write to Salabat Khan a letter similar to that which you sent to Gangaram Pundit. I do not know how to account for the irregularity of the dak, but I have sent a man along the road to arrange the stations so that no further delay may take place.

Letter No. 10.—The letter explains how the attitude of Nizam's officers in withholding territories ceded to Raghoji around Gawilgarh and Narnalla is reprehensible.

FROM—M S ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR,
TO—MAJOR J A KIRKPATRICK, RESIDENT AT HYDERABAD

Nagpur, 7th April 1804

I have the honour to enclose copies of letters from the Hon'ble Major General Wellesley to Raja Gangaram Soobehdar of Ellichpur and to me

2nd The Raja of Berar's complaints to which the letter to me refers are that Raja Gangaram has withheld the districts under Gwalgarh secured to the Raja by the treaty of peace that he has seized on all places to which both the Raja and the Nizam have claims and on many to which His Highness the Nizam never before preferred any claim and finally that he does everything in his power to insult and degrade the Raja.

3rd These complaints are probably exaggerated but there are some parts of Raja Gangaram's conduct to which I must beg to call your attention.

4th It appears to me that his withholding the districts under Gwalgarh is contrary to the treaty of Deogaon and none of the three reasons which he has given for taking that step seem to me to be sufficient.

He wrote to Colonel Lang that he did not give over the districts because he found that instead of four they yielded 7 lakhs of rupees annually. If this gave him a right to detain any part of the lands selected by Raja Maheepat Ram I should think it would be their excess over those ceded and no more. He informed the Raja of Berar's Vakeel that he could not deliver over the districts without orders from his highness the Nizam. As such orders appear from General Wellesley's letters to have been issued long since he ought to have made over the country before this time. Even if he had thought that he was not warranted in doing so under the orders of General Wellesley alone his third reason is stated in a letter to me, where he says that he has detained the territory in question because some of the Raja of Berar's troop under one Rajaram were plundering in Berar. In this last case perhaps the Nizam or Rajaram was doing him important injuries and if he had clear proof that he was acting under the Raja's orders might be justified in retaining possession of the territory which he had engaged to give up but Raja Gangaram had no right to take such straggling horse in Berar who are so far from belonging clearly to the Raja. That he has all along disavowed them said that they ought to be destroyed and even offered to co-operate against them in case they should come into the divided country on this side of the Wardha.

I am not acquainted with Raja Gangaram's reasons for his conduct with respect to the disputed villages. I believe it is usual in all cases of doubt to leave the subject of dispute in the hands of the possession but in this instance a method of deciding all disputes is provided by treaty so that neither party can have the least pretence for wresting any place from the other by force.

This conduct of Raja Gangaram is not only discreditable to the administration of His Highness the Soobedar of the Deccan but even injurious to the dignity of the British Government. The Ministers of the Raja of Berar say that the Raja looks for the execution of the treaty to the British and that it is the dread of their power alone which induces the Raja to submit to any injury from the officers of His Highness the Nizam. The seizure of disputed places by force also shews great disrespect for the arbitration of His Excellency the Governor General.

The third part of the Raja's complaint is of less importance but it is to be regretted that while His Excellency the Governor-General is endeavouring by the most conciliating and generous treatment to remove from the Raja's mind all the painful feelings which his misfortunes must have occasioned he should be irritated by the usage which he receives from an officer of His Highness the Nizam.

In addition to the facts which I have stated to you allow me to observe that the arrangement most likely to satisfy this Government that His Highness the Nizam does not concur in the excesses of his servants and

to remove the ill effect of Raja Gangaram's conduct would be that he should be recalled from his Government and his successor instructed to fulfil the treaty without delay but if you see objections to the plan the least His Highness the Nizam can do is to order Raja Gangaram in the strictest manner to carry into effect the repeated orders of the Hon'ble Major General Wellesley and to behave in future with more moderation towards the Raja of Berar and also to assure him that his departing from the line of conduct prescribed to him will infallibly subject him to the loss of his office

Letter No. 11.—Kirkpatrick along with his own letter encloses copies of two letters, one from Major General Wellesley to Major Kirkpatrick, Resident at Hyderabad, and the other from the latter to the former, which show the attitude of the parties in effecting the fulfilment of the treaty of Deogaon, and the cession of certain territories by the Nizam's Government to the Rajah of Berar. The complaints of General Wellesley that the Nizam's agent in Berar has been playing mischief by withholding the cession of certain territories are explained by Kirkpatrick, who assures the General that adequate measures will be taken to carry out his commands. A few more letters in the correspondence about the settlement of this dispute are not printed here, because they are not important. Enclosures 6, 7 and 10 which come after these are important and mention what Pandit Gangaram had done in this matter and what territories he had handed over to Bhonsla's Agents.

FROM—COL. KIRKPATRICK, RESIDENT AT HYDERABAD.

TO—M. ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

Hyderabad, 19th April 1804

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 7th and 9th instant

The enclosed copies of my despatches to His Excellency the Governor-General, dated the 17th, and of my latest correspondence with the Hon'ble Major General Wellesley joined to my address to yourself of the 8th instant will convey to you such abundant information touching the result of the late representations against the Aumil of Ellichpoor as to preclude the necessity of my troubling you with a detailed reply to the several points enumerated in your letters, especially as the latter of them encourages an expectation that the boundary disputes may now be finally adjusted without further reference

It is my intention however (as you will perceive I have advised General Wellesley) to urge the Minister to persevere in his determination of sending Raja Mahipat Ram or his Deputy to Ellichpur as the best means at present in my power of ascertaining the reality of the complaints preferred against Gangaram Pundit whose recall from that quarter if my influence can effect it may be depended upon, in the event of those complaints proving well founded

I am just honoured with your letter of the 11th instant, requesting the exertion of my influence for the restoration of a Jagheer formerly granted by this Government to a nephew of the Raja of Berar and enclosing copy of the grant itself for my information

On this subject I shall do myself the honour of addressing you more at large after making the necessary enquiries and eventual application to this Government, but in the meanwhile it may be proper to observe this much for your immediate information that this Court is extremely averse to the granting of Jagheers to Mahratta subjects that the Jagheer now applied for in behalf of Gooza Rao is described in the body of the grant as amounting to a no less a sum in gross revenue than four lacks and forty thousand rupees that Gooza Rao himself absconded suddenly from hence under very discreditable circumstances long before the breaking out of the late war and after some commutation had actually taken place relative to his Jagheer in consequence if I am not mistaken of possession being denied to him by his uncle the Berar Raja himself of the one originally granted by this Government and which (as appear from the document enclosed in your letter) is the identical Jagheer now claimed though then rejected on the plea of its belonging either partly or wholly to the Berar Government

TO—MAJOR KIRKPATRICK

Bombay 6th April 1804

SIR

I have the honour to enclose the copy of a letter which I received from Mr Elphinstone containing fresh complaints from the Ministers of the Raja of Berar, of the conduct of Gangaram Pundit the Soobah & Amildar in the Berar Country

This conduct in which Gangaram Pundit appears determined to persevere notwithstanding my repeated remonstrances is entirely inconsistent with the spirit of peace and with the letter and spirit of the Treaty of Deogaon

If the Raja of Berar should retaliate the Soobah of the Deccan will lose all the advantages which he might derive from the sole possession of the rich countries ceded by the Treaty of Peace and the consequence may be renewal of the war In that case the British Government might be reduced to the necessity of making a choice between seeing the reduction of the Power of its ally or commencing a war in which the Soobah of the Deccan will have been the aggressor

I therefore most earnestly urge you to use your influence at the Court of Hyderabad to induce the Soobah of the Deccan to perform the stipulations of the Treaty of Peace

In my opinion Gangaram Pundit ought to be seized and punished for his conduct and till that measure is adopted no Amildar will obey the orders which he may receive

As the Berar Country is at present managed by the Soobah & Officer for the benefit of the allies I request you to enquire and report to His Excellency the Governor General whether Rajah Ragotim Rao has interfered and given orders inconsistent with the principles of the Peace, and with the instructions which I gave to Raja Mahipat Ram

I have the honour to be

etc. etc.

ARTHUR WELLESLEY

TO—MAJOR GENERAL THE HON'BLE ARTHUR WELLESLEY, BOMBAY

SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letters of the 2nd and 6th instant

2 I had not the honour of addressing you any letter on the 29th February, but I wrote to you on the 19th which letter I conclude you have received

3 Immediately on the receipt of your letter of the 6th instant, I sent my Moonshy to Durbar to make the representations which its tenor appeared to require. The minister in reply expressed himself much concerned at the continued remonstrances and complaints against Gangaram Pundit, though he still professed to entertain very strong doubts whether the principal complaint, namely the alleged retention in spite of repeated orders of the Districts to be delivered to the Raja of Berar in conformity to the 5th article of the Treaty was well founded

4. In compliance however with my earnest representations, the Minister agreed to send orders immediately to Raja Mahipat Ram to proceed either himself without delay or if unavoidably prevented by more pressing business, to depute a confidential and well informed person to Ellichpur, to report the actual state of matters and to carry scrupulously into immediate execution whatever stipulations of the Treaty may yet be unfulfilled, including the confirmation of the Grants made of sundry villages to the amount of fourteen or fifteen to the Raja of Berar's ministers

5 I have obtained also the fullest assurances from the minister that Gungaram Pundit shall be called to a severe account if his repeated declarations of having made over to the Berar Raja's servants the districts agreed upon between Eswant Rao Ramchander and Raja Mahipat Ram prove unfounded, or if he shall upon due investigation be found to have acted in any way contrary to existing engagements

6 From some hints that the minister threw out to my Moonshy at their late meeting it would seem as if he considered Eshwant Rao Ramchander as having aggravated matters by mis-representations to his own court. Eshwant Rao Ramchander resided here as you may recollect for some years as Vakeel from the Court of Berar, and appears to be considered by Auzim Ol Omrah as not well disposed towards this Government

7 On the day following my Moonshy's interview with the minister, I received an answer from Gungaram Pundit to my late letter to him, accompanied also by a reply to your letter, which together with a copy and translation of the former and a translation of the latter are herewith enclosed

8 The schedule of cessions around Nurnallah and Gawilgarh enclosed in Gangaram Pundit's letter to you differs in no material point from the one which he has now transmitted to the minister, with this single exception, that he describes the Raja of Berar's Ministers in the letter as having seized and appropriated to themselves villages to the annual amount of thirty-five thousand rupees beyond what was provided for in the schedule adjusted between Eshwant Rao Ramchander and Raja Mahipat Ram in the presence Captain Johnstone and which I alluded to in the 4th paragraph of my letter to you of the 26th of February

9 Notwithstanding all this however, I propose urging the minister to adhere to his resolution of ordering Raja Mahipat Ram or some one on his part to proceed to Ellichpoor for the purposes stated in the 4th paragraph of this letter though it may be doubted whether even this expedient will prove so conclusive as to obviate the necessity of deputing aumeens to the frontier as suggested in my letter of the 8th instant to the Hon'ble Mr Elphinstone to determine all boundary disputes under the superintendence of some English gentleman a measure of all others the best calculated perhaps to put an effectual end to these dissensions

Hyderabad

KIRKPATRICK

The 18th April 1804

*Translation of a letter to the Resident from Gangaram Pundit
Received 15th April 1804*

I have had the honour to receive your two letters the one in reply to my communication and the other enclosing a letter from the Hon'ble Major General Wellesley on the subject of the districts ceded by Raja Raghojee Bhonsla the latter of which arrived on the 21st of Zelhujah 1218 A H (corresponding to 1st of April 1804 A D) I perfectly understand their contents

As my reliance and dependance are solely on your favor and as I consider the interests of the two states to be inseparable how could I possibly presume upon a disobedience of orders

When Jeshwant Rao Ramehander produced the Sunnud to which the seal of Mahipat was affixed in obedience to orders I delivered over the districts and villages specified in those sunnuds to the officers as you will perceive by my letter (with a schedule of the ceded countries annexed) in answer to General Wellesley which I have sent under a flying seal for your perusal and I request you will afterwards be pleased to seal and dispatch it to its address I likewise request that you will do me the honour to communicate to me whatever the General may subsequently remark

I am entirely at your command and I trust you will continue to consider me as one of the most faithful of your friends

A True Translation

R JENKINS
Acting Secretary

*Translation of a letter from Gangaram Narayan to General Wellesley
Received 15th April 1804*

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your condescending letter expressive of your disapprobation at the retention of the districts and villages selected by Raja Mahipat Ram to be ceded to the Raja Raghojee Bhonsla intimating moreover that I had seized upon several other places which did not formerly belong to this Government and signifying your desire that the districts in question as fixed upon by Mahipat Ram should be instantly evacuated to the Raja of Berar Your letter to this effect which arrived on the 1st of April was enclosed in one from the Resident at Hyderabad

As I consider the interests of the two Governments to be inseparably connected and as during your residence in this district I never deviated in the most trifling instance from your commands although no service can be perfect I nevertheless performed always my duty to its utmost extent and from your favour I took to indulgence for my errors In all cases I consider obedience to be indispensable

With regard to the countries ceded to Raghojee Bhonsla I beg leave to state the matter truly. When Jeswant Rao Ramchander the Vakil of the Raja of Berar by your command arrived here with the Sunnuds bearing the seal of Mahipat Ram, I immediately issued written orders for the evacuation of the places in question, which were accordingly taken possession of by the Troops of that officer. I have the honour to enclose for your information a separate schedule of the ceded territories. I had previously, during the Vakeel's stay at this place, received a letter from Mr Elphinstone, informing me that the territories to the west of the river Wardha belonged to this Government, and that the countries on the eastern bank continued as formerly under the separate authority of this Government and of the Bhonsla. In like manner that the countries to the southward below the Ghaut of the Unjardee hills upon which are situated the forts of Gawilgarh and Nernallah were to belong to this Government, and all territory to the northward above the hills, to the Raja. In the arrangement of the districts I accordingly conformed to those instructions and I also suggested to Mr Elphinstone by letter the propriety of sending some person on his part in whose presence the boundaries might be adjusted, or of writing to Colonel Kenny and Mr Gordon who were at Ellichpoor, to settle the boundaries in person and that their arrangement should be decisive.

The Officers of the Raja represent things to you, Sir, in a different light, and have likewise thrown out the same insinuations to Mr Elphinstone, who writes that he is much displeased with my conduct. What can I do or say on this subject. I must submit to my superiors. In short I will never be guilty of disobedience but will ever be strenuously active to obtain your approbation in order that I may not hereafter be accused of negligence or remission in the settlement of the affairs entrusted to my charge. I will also exert myself in the arrangement of the newly acquired territories to the southward of the hills, and shall strictly obey whatever orders I may hereafter receive from you on this subject. I trust you will continue to honour me with your condescending letters.

*Translation of the schedule annexed to Gangaram Narayan's
letter to General Wellesley*

The Muhals of unkist, etc, ceded to Raja Ragojee Bhonsla are as follows —

[According to the sunnud bearing the seal of Raja Mahipat Ram.]

To the said Raja—

The Puigunnah of Unkot .. 1 Muhal.

The Pergunnah of Urgaum, excepting the Mouza of—

The Pergunnah of Budneeruh Gungae .. 1 Muhal.

The Pergunnah of Thanklee .. 1 Muhal.

The Mouza of Soottanpoor in the Pergunnah of Mehkar 1 Muhal.

The Mouza of Kounlee in the Pergunnah of Sohar .. 1 Mouza.

To the Raja's Moctuddies—

To Jeewant Rao Ramchander Vakeel—

The Mouzas of Kokur and Munchunpoor in the 2 Villages
Pergunnah of Dunleapoor

Five villages of the Pergunnah Meehagaum of which
the gross revenue is 25 000 Rupees From the
Pergunnah Havellee to Illichpore in lieu of the
Sirdeshmookhee 7 500 Rupees

To Gangaram Madhoo Eswant Rao—

From the Pergunnah of Jalgaon seven Mouzas as
follows —

Sanor Gaon	1 Mouza
Mal gaon	1 Mouza
Palsce	1 Mouza
Usulgaon	1 Mouza
Hugeence	1 Mouza
Panklee	1 Mouza
Barsingee	1 Mouza
The Kusbah of Saonlee	1 Muhal
The Mouza of Moondgaum in the Pergunnah of Unkot	1 Mouza
The Mouza of Bunna in the Pergunnah of Girdmangaon	1 Mouza

To Ganesh Govind Patwari—

From the pergunnah of Beer the Mouza of Kaplee 1 Mouza

To Shree Dhar Pundit Moonshee—

Pergunnahs of Tulagaon and Sasee 1 Mouza

The Mouza of Wuregaon in the Pergunnah of Bogaum 1 Mouza

A True Translation

R. JENKINS

Acting Secretary

*Extract of a letter dated 1st of April from Gangaram Pundit to his
Vakeel enclosed in the Minister's note Received 14th April*

According to Mahipat Ram's instructions I have evacuated the districts
and villages for the maintenance of the forts to Raja Ragojee Bhonsla and
his officers. The enclosed separate schedule of those places will make you
fully acquainted with the subject I gave over charge immediately upon
the receipt of Mahipat Ram's letter excepting the Thanas regarding which
I waited for orders from Government, but which I have now also deliver-
ed over and received receipts for the same. Some person has written un-
founded complaints of my conduct. I cannot help it. I have however
conformed to my instructions.

A True Extract and Translation

RICHARD JENKINS

Acting Secretary

Translation of the schedule sent by Gangaram Pundit and endorsed in the Minister's note to Moonshy UZEEZ OOLLAH

The following is a state of the districts, villages etc delivered over to Raja Raghojee Bhonsla with the concurrence of Jeswant Rao Ramchander the Raja's Vakeel according to the instructions of Raja Mahipat Ram

To Raja Ragojee Bhonsla—

Six Mohals, viz —

The whole of the Pergunnah of Unkot excepting 1 Mohal
Meondgaum

The whole of the Pergunnah of Urgaum excepting 1 Mohal
Peepalkhura and three villages.

The Pergunnah of Bhatkoollee . 1 Mohal.

The Pergunnah of Purneer Gungae entire . 1 Mohal.

The Mouza of Sooltanpore in the Pergunnah of Mukhir 1 Mouza

N B —Of this they have taken possession of their own accord

The Mouza of Khunoul in the Pergunnah of Lenar 1 Mouza

N B —This was also taken of their own accord

From the above it will appear that his Mouzas belonging to this Government have been taken possession of without my knowledge I delivered over the four Mohals immediately upon the receipt of Mahipat Ram's letter In this respect I made use of no evasion or delay

To the Mootsuddes of Raghojee Bhonsla by Mahipat Ram's Orders were given the following —

To Jeswant Rao Ramchander Vakeel—

The Mouza of Kakurdeh Munjunpoor in the Pergunnah of Daria-poor—1 Mouza

From the Pergunnah Hiweree of Ellichpore a sum of money was granted in part of Sindeshmookhee claims which sum was realised by him abroad—7,500 rupees

From the Pergunnah of Punjgaon a sunnud was granted for villages yielding a gross Revenue—25,000 Rupees—1 Mahal

The Mouza of Peepul Kheer and other three villages in the Pergunnah of Argaum in Umuli Mukasee—1 Mahal

To Gangadhar Madhoo Chitnavees, Sree Dhur Luchman Moonshee and Jeswant Rao Ramchander Vakeel eleven villages—

From the Pergunnah of Jalgaon etc seven villages in which the Sircar has now no concern The above persons have taken possession of them of their own accord

The seven villages are as follows —

Usal Gaon	..	1 Mouza
Palsee		1 Mouza.
Veersurgee	..	1 Mouza
Malegaon	..	1 Mouza
Hungurah		1 Mouza
Nunglee	..	1 Mouza.

The Kusbah of Sarwalee and other villages.

Four villages viz —

The Kusbali or Sarweeluh	1 Mouza
The Mouza of Moondgaum in the Pergunnah of Unkot	1 Mouza
The Mouza of Veerun in the Pergunnah of Genc-manurgauni	1 Mouza
The Mouza of Godnapoor in the Pergunnah of Belgaum Raja	1 Mouza

Shree Dhar Luchman Moonshy and Ganesh Govind Putwaree have of their own accord taken possession of the Mouza of Kapla in the Pergunnah of Beer three villages

The Mouza of Kapla in the Pergunnah of Beer has been taken possession of by Gunesli Govind Putwaree

Shree Dhar Luchman Moonshy has taken two Mouzas viz —

- The Mouza of Surcesgaum in the Pergunnah of Malegaum—1 Mouza
 - The Mouza of Purgaum in the Pergunnah of Thoongaum—1 Mouza
- N B —This Mouza is the Jagheer of Salabat Khan

According to the above statement, I delivered over entire charge of the four Mahals and eight villages with the Kusbah as many as were under my control to the Raja's Officers. I did not omit even one Mouza besides this the Kusbah of Sulee the Jagheer of Jervant Rao Ramchander which was given to him in Mukasa there remains in his undisturbed possession. In the performance of this duty if I have committed any errors let them be proved against me. It remains for you to consider the charges which have been preferred to my prejudice.

A True Translation

R JENKINS
Acting Secretary

Letter No 12 —Elphinstone gives an account of the money paid as pensions to Bhonsla's Ministers by the British which is revealing

FROM—ELPHINSTONE RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

TO—W EGERTON CIVIL AUDITOR.

Nagpur 6th March 1806

I have the honour to enclose my accounts for February

The only charge which appears to require explanation is that for 12 000 Rupees on account of pensions granted to Jervant Rao by Sir Arthur Wellesley amounted for last year to 5 000 rupees 5 000 now are on account of his pension of 15 000 rupees a year for 1,806 and 2 000 are on account of Jaikishan Rao's pension for the same year

Letter No. 13 —Elphinstone reports the discussions he had with Bhonsla's Minister Jaswant Rao about the pensions bestowed upon the Bhonsla's Ministers and servants by the British Government and the cession of Sambalpore and the tracts East of the Wardha. He also reports about an interview with the Bhonsla.

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR,
TO—THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.

Nagpur, 16th April 1805

On the 11th I had the honour to receive Mr Edmonstone's dispatch dated the 25th ultimo, enclosing a letter from you to His Highness the Raja of Berar

I had before informed the Raja of your intentions in his favour, but the manner in which he received my communication rendered the arrival of your letter to him particularly opportune. As I thought it material that His Highness should have time to consider the substance of what you had written to him before he was called on to reply to it, I sent for Jeswant Rao and allowed him to read the pension copy transmitted for my information. He made no remark on it, except that he was desirous that I should say nothing on the subject of the Pensions more than was in your letter. I answered that I had nothing particular to say on that head, but that I was rather surprized at the request, which rendered it doubtful whether he had communicated to the Raja the messages regarding the Pensions, with which I had more than once charged him. Jeswant Rao said, that the Pensions were mentioned in the letter which would of course he read to the Raja, but that he was desirous they should not be dwelt on, as the Raja would be displeased by remarking that his Ministers were more successful in enriching themselves, than he was in the recovery of his dominions. I repeated that I had nothing particular to say about the Pensions, but that it must be clearly understood that no concealment was to be observed regarding them.

On the 13th Shreedhar Pundit visited me by the Raja's desire, and informed me that His Highness being prevented by the state of his health from seeing me immediately, had sent him to explain His Highness's sentiments on the subject to which your letter referred. Shreedhar Pundit proceeded to say that it must be confessed that Lord Cornwallis's letter bore two constructions, that the Raja had given it the wrong one, that he now perceived from your letter what was really meant and that he had directed the following remark to be communicated to me. Shreedhar Pundit then spoke for some time on the Raja's friendship towards the British, which he assured me would never change, and pointed out the advantages which the Raja hoped to derive from such disposition. He then observed that the restoration of the districts on the Wardha was as much an infringement of the Treaty with the Nizam as it would be to transfer the whole of Berar to the Raja, he added that those districts were of small value and afforded no temptation to the Raja to lay himself under obligations to the Nizam, whom he had ever regarded as his equal and that he was desirous not to expose the Company to the inconveniences of procuring them for him. He then dwelt at great length on the Raja's attachment to the British Government and the friendly conduct of that state towards him and concluded by acquainting me in very proper terms with His Highness's acceptance of Sambalpore, adding that he trusted to the generosity of the British Government for any further addition to his

territories at a future period. In reply to Shreedhar Pundit I first remarked that Lord Cornwallis's letter would not bear the construction he had put on it. His Lordship's promise to restore the Raja's power as far as he could consistently with justice and good faith could never lead any person to expect that he would carry his liberality to an extent but which was unreasonable and contrary to his engagements. I added that even if his Lordship's letter had been less express and if the Raja's own good sense had not been sufficient to moderate his expectations my explanations were made in plain terms and could not be misunderstood that I had on those grounds always supposed that His Highness had a correct notion of the extent of the proposed restoration and that I had expected that as soon as the offer was made to him it would have been cheerfully accepted that I was happy to find that His Highness had now determined on so proper a reply to your offer of Sambalpur which I hoped you would be able to carry into effect though that could not be done without considerable sacrifices on the part of the British Government. I next observed that the English Government had no interest in persuading the Raja to accept the districts on this side of the Wardha but that as I know you had the Raja's welfare at heart, I would not allow him to let so advantageous an offer pass without once more pointing out the imprudence of his doing so. As to the assertion that it was as great a breach of faith to restore those districts as to deprive the Nizam of Berar I said I would do Shreedhar Pundit the justice to suppose that he did not intend it to be taken seriously as it was obvious that what was done by the Nizam's consent was no breach of treaty and that it was not equally easy to induce His Highness to give up a few Pergunnahs, and to resign a valuable province which he had required by an expensive war. I then again pointed out the benefits His Highness would derive from accepting those Districts and Shreedhar Pundit repeating the Raja's rejection of them. I said I would report the whole conversation to you. Shreedhar Pundit then asked how soon I thought the Raja might obtain possession. I said the issue of the negotiation was yet uncertain but that I had no doubt it would be brought to a conclusion and probably to a successful one in a month or two. Shreedhar Pundit then introduced the subject of the Pensions on which he begged I might not dwell at my interview with the Raja. I told him that I was surprised to find that request so much insisted on as I had so often declared that the affair must not be kept secret from the Raja and as I had sent several messages to His Highness by Jeswant Rao in which I had directly alluded to that arrangement. Shreedhar Pundit then declared that he had no wish to conceal the matter from the Raja and observed that he could not do so if he wished it as the Raja would hear your letter and write an answer to it which he could not do without being apprized of the circumstances. I then said that considering the situation he stood in with the Raja I considered every thing I said to him officially as regularly communicated to His Highness that I trusted in consequence that the Raja was apprized of the grant of Pensions to his Ministers and that I was certain I would meet with the disapprobation of my Government if I entered into any clandestine transaction whatever. Nothing further past at this meeting.

I yesterday evening was invited to the Durbar where I presented your letter to the Raja. It was read to him by Shreedhar Pundit and when it was finished His Highness spoke for some time in general terms of his friendship for the Company and referred me to Shreedhar Pundit's communications and to his own answer to your letter for all particulars.

Shreedhar Pundit read the letter to the Raja in a low voice so that I could not distinctly hear him but I have reason to think he omitted the passages where the pensions are mentioned. It would have involved Shreedhar Pundit in a serious difficulty to have taken notice of this

circumstance on the spot, and though the consent of the Ministers to avow their acceptance of the Pensions prevents my being under any obligation to keep it secret; yet as my mentioning it at an inconvenient time, would have an effect directly contrary to that which the grant is intended to produce, I thought it best to make no remark in the Raja's presence. I have this day wrote to Jeswant Rao to request him to come to me, and I intended to inform him that unless the Raja mentions the pensions in his answer to your letter; or shows in some other way that he approves of their being granted, I shall be under the necessity of conversing with His Highness in person on the subject, which I should have done at first, had it not been that I had a perfect reliance on his reporting to the Raja every thing that passed officially between him and me.

P S—Since I wrote the above, Jeswant Rao came to me in compliance with my request. It was rendered unnecessary for me to speak to him as I had intended by his informing me that the Raja had been made acquainted with the grant of the Pensions, which had never fully been explained to him before, that he entirely approved of the acceptance of them; but had desired the matter to be concealed from the other Ministers, to prevent their being discontented at finding themselves left out in the arrangement.

Letter No. 14.—Sydenham reports about the misfortunes of one Mahant who had supplied accurate information about the fort of Gawilgarh that had helped the British to capture it during the war. Owing to this treachery the Raja of Berar had imprisoned his children and confiscated his property. Elphinstone is solicited to help him in his adverse circumstances. The Enclosure contains a copy of the Mahant's application to Sydenham.

FROM—T SYDENHAM, RESIDENT AT HYDERABAD,

TO—M ELPHINSTONE

Hyderabad, 24th May 1806

I have been strongly solicited by Synoo Bhenty (Sambhu Bharati) Mahant the Ghoosain to attract your attention towards his situation. For this purpose I beg leave to send you a translation of his Arzee to me.

It appears that you have done something for him and he is hopeful that you may do more. I am not sufficiently informed of the truth of the circumstances which he relates to form any judgement of the degree of the Raja of Berar's injustice towards him or of his claims upon us to justify any very positive interference in his favour.

If he really furnished the British Commanders with such accurate information of Gawilghur as materially to facilitate our capture of that fortress it is not surprizing that the Raja of Berar should confine his children, confiscate his goods and cancel his debts. On the other hand it would be necessary to determine what was the value of his services to the British Government which should require to employ our influence in preventing him from suffering for those services. If common report can be credited his mission from the Raja of Berar to the Nabab Salabat Khan was not a very innocent one. It would almost appear, that the Ghoosain first came to the British Camp to prevail upon Salabat Khan to forsake the Nizam's service and failing in that he gave information to us, which excited the resentment of the Raja of Berar and produced the misfortune of which he now complains.

In short his case appears to be a very complicated one and as you have been able only to procure the release of his family I suppose that you have already found you were not able to obtain his property back for him.

Translation of an Arzic presented by Synoo Bherty Muhandt (Sambhoo Bharti) to Captain Sydenham May 12th 1806

SIR

Of exalted rank bestower of favours the asylum of the destitute, may your prosperity be eternal

In the commencement of the war I went on the part of the Mother of Senah Sahib Raja Ragojee Bhonsla to transact business with the Nawab Salahat Khan at Argam from whence we proceeded to Elliehpore. What the Nawab may have told Colonel Stevenson and Captain Johnson I know not but as I entertained an attachment for Raja Ragojee Bhonsla and possessed a knowledge of his affairs Colonel Stevenson kept me with himself and without the subject of my mission ever being mentioned he suddenly ordered me to accompany Colonel Laing to the fort of Gawilghur. Notwithstanding this circumstance, however the objects of my exertions and endeavour were effected, and on this account Raja Raghoojee Bhonslah laid waste my house, confiscated my property my goods and my possessions, confined my children destroyed my papers and cancelled a debt of lacs of rupees which were due to me by Government. He assigned inexistant causes for this procedure and although I represented the circumstance he would not listen to me. Mr Elphinstone also exerted himself but without effect. At length I went to General Wellesley and represented to him my situation. He considered my case and gave me a letter to Mr Elphinstone requesting he would effect the restoration of my property and the liberation of my family. Mr Elphinstone in consequence recovered for me by his exertions several houses and the liberty of my children but I have obtained nothing more. It was my fate that General Wellesley should proceed to Europe otherwise I feel assured that he would have recovered for me my property. As many officers of the Bhonsla who at present hold situation are my enemies I know not what they may have impressed to Mr Elphinstone, that my affairs are not adjusted. In consequence of my intercourse with the British Government alone Raja Ragojee Bhonsla has effected my ruin and laid waste my house. He entertained no other avers against me. I have now no refuge or support but yourself. Having bestowed your attention justice and consideration on the subject I am hopeful that you will cause my lawful property and fortune to be restored to me.

Additional Representation

I entertain much fear of Rajah Raghoojee Bhonsla. It is requisite from your kindness and mercy that some house either of your own or of His Highness the Soubah be appropriated to the Residence of my people that I may continue to secure beneath your shadow until the affairs which I have represented to you shall be adjusted. Without your support and consideration my protection and safety are impossible. Your attention to this subject is necessary.

A True Translation

CHARLES RUSSELL

Letter No. 15 —Elphinstone reports that the Ministers Shridhar Pandit and Jaikishan Rao desire to have Sannads for their pensions, and that the Bhonsla and his son Bala Sahib want some watches. It is rather interesting to note that even in 1806 the natives of Nagpur could repair watches.

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR,

TO—N B EDMONSTONE, SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

Nagpur, 18th June 1806

Since the grant of Pensions to Shreedhar Pundit, Jeswant Rao, and Jaikishan Rao, those Ministers particularly the first have shown considerable anxiety to receive Sunnuds for the continuance of them under the seal of the Government. I was yesterday requested by Jeswant Rao to make an application on the subject, and as it appears desirable to satisfy the Ministers of the permanence of their pensions, I beg that you will be pleased to submit their wishes to the Hon'ble the Governor-General.

I formerly submitted to Government in the beginning of 1805, a request on Jeswant Rao's part, that a Cowle might be granted by the Company, or obtained from the Nizam for the security of his lands and other property in Berar, particularly for a Banking House, which belongs to him in the village of Toogaon. His object in soliciting a Cowle, is to secure himself from the enmity of Salabat Khan, with whom he has some family quarrel and who would have entirely ruined his brother Vithal Punt in 1803, if it had not been for the interposition of Sir Arthur Wellesley. Jeswant Rao has now renewed his application, and I promised to submit it to the Hon'ble the Governor-General without engaging for its success.

I had formerly the honour to report that I had been requested by the Raja to procure some watches for him. I at the same time (at their solicitation) procured a Repeater for the Raja's son Balla Sahib, and another for Shreedhar Pundit, but on their arrival, the Raja when saw them in the hands of a Native who was repairing them, and was so anxious to have them, that Balla Sahib and Shreedhar Pundit were obliged to give them up. They have since frequently begged of me to get them other Repeaters, particularly of late. I have always avoided promising them, but if the Hon'ble the Governor-General should not disapprove of the expense, they would be very acceptable presents to the persons who solicit them. The price would amount to upwards of 1,000 rupees.

I shall be happy to be honoured with the commands of the Hon'ble the Governor-General on the subject above referred to.

SAMBALPUR AND CUTTACK AFFAIRS

Letter No 1 —Reports the circumstances that led to the capture of the fort of Sambalpur by an officer of Raghoji Colebrooke informs the Raja of Sambalpur enjoyed semi independent status and possibly the capture of his strongest fort may lead to the complete subjugation of his territories

FROM—H COLEBROOKES RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

TO—THE RIGHT HONBLE EARL OF MORNINGTON
GOVERNOR GENERAL

Nagpur April 1800

Intelligence was yesterday received that the fort of Sambalpur has been surprized by the Raja of Berar's troops and taken with little resistance This occurrence has been deemed of sufficient magnitude to be announced by a salute which was yesterday fired from the part of Artillery

2 Sambalpur was the principal Fortress of a Chief of Mountaineers who takes his title from that place and who holds an extensive tract of country between Chatesgarh (i.e. Ruttunpur) and Cuttack He was nominally subject to the Government, but did almost maintain independency and only paid small tribute very irregularly Governing a numerous tribe of hardy mountaineers and possessing such a stronghold as Sambalpur, he had been hitherto able to elude the power of the Raja of Berar and all attempts to subdue his country had been invariably failed The reduction of his strongest fortress will it is thought be now followed by his speedy submission and by the full establishment of the Mahratta authority throughout his territories

3 The sudden attack which has been thus successful was not preconcerted Chindajee Bhonsla an officer of the Raja's troops being in that neighbourhood strayed with two rocket men into the forest of Bamboo lanes which surrounds the Fort and coming unexpectedly upon it found it carelessly guarded and remarked that the wall had fallen into the ditch in one place He eventually threw a rocket into the Fort by which the thatched buildings it contains were accidentally set on fire Observing that the Garrison was busied in endeavouring to extinguish the fire without suspecting the occasion of it Chindajee sent for troops from the Camp who arrived in time to surprize the Fort They made themselves masters of it and put the Garrison to the sword

4 Should this success be followed by the complete reduction of the country belonging to the Chief of Sambalpur it might certainly be considered as an important event to the Raja of Berar since the strength of his dominions will be much increased by thus connecting different parts of them which were in a manner cut off from each other while an almost independent chief occupied an intermediate extensive tract of the country

Letter No 2 —The letter suggests to the Rajas the advantages they will gain by forming an alliance with the British Government on condition of paying an annual tribute of five gold Mohars every year.

FROM—THE COMMISSIONERS FOR THE AFFAIRS OF THE
SUBAH OF ANDERI, CUTTACK,

TO—THE RAJAS OF SAMBALPORE, SONEPORE AND BOAD

Cuttack, 13th December 1803

You will have no doubt heard that His Excellency the Governor-General has been pleased to appoint us, Lieut-Col George Harcourt, Commanding the British Troops in the Subah of Anderi, and Mr John Melville, Commissioner for the Affairs of the said Subah. As the boundary of this Subah and your country are near each other and as you are the principal Raja of these provinces, we are desirous of establishing such a friendship with you as will prohibit the idea of our being on any other footing. Such an alliance would be a great advantage to you which is an . . . to us. The strict adherence of the Hon'ble the Company to the alliances they form and their fulfilment of engagements once entered into, is known to all the world and no doubt you are acquainted with it. If, therefore, you establish a friendship with them you may expect to derive substantial advantages therefrom. It would not be proper in us to receive any Peshcush or other present from you more than customary from friends, as what may be necessary to show your esteem for the Company, but if you will send five Gold Mohars annually it will be received. In order that the friendship which we have thus laid a foundation for, should be permanently and firmly established between both parties, we enclose you two *contracts*, one in the name of the Company to you which we have signed, and another from you to the Company. Should you keep possession of the one signed by us, and return the other with your signature, our friendship is firmly established, and from the moment you sign the enclosed contract you may consider yourself as an ally of the Hon'ble Company and desist from paying the tribute which you formerly paid to the Mahrattas and on no account pay them that due for the past and present years.

The Hon'ble Company will not require any Peshcush or other consideration for their friendship or protection.

If you send a Vakeel here he shall receive a dress with which we beg leave to present you.

(A True Copy)

Copy of an agreement entered into by Lieut-Colonel George Harcourt and Mr John Melville, Commissioners for the affairs of the Subah of Anderi in the name of the Hon'ble Company with Jugat Singh, Raja of Sambalpoore, Purte Singh, Raja of Sonapore, and Juguteshwar Deo, Raja of Boad, written on the 13th December 1803

Agreement

We, Lieut-Col George Harcourt Bahadur, Commanding the British Troops in and Commissioner for the affairs of the Province of Anderi, and Mr John Melville, Commissioner for the affairs of the said Subah, having been appointed Commissioners for the arrangement of the affairs of this Subah by His Excellency the Governor-General, enter into an agreement with the . . . , Raja of . . . , in the name of the Company according to the following articles —

1st —We engage to receive five gold Mohars annually as wish of courtesy.

2nd—It is well known that the Hon ble Company be friend and support upon all occasions those Princes that form an alliance with them and that those who are in friendship with them remain suitable returns. If the said Raja will continue on his part to maintain the friendship required of him nothing shall be wanting on the part of Hon ble Company to repay such friendship in the most minute also

(A True Copy)

Letter No 3—The letter reports the state of affairs of the Cuttack province ceded by Raghoji and therefore is an important letter

FROM—THE COMMISSIONERS FOR THE AFFAIRS OF
CUTTACK

TO—MAJOR GENERAL WILLESLEY

Cuttack, 19th January 1804

We have had the honour to acquaint you that His Excellency the Most Noble the Governor General has been pleased to communicate to us a copy of the Treaty of Peace concluded by you on the part of the Hon ble East India Company and its allies with the Raja of Berar on the 17th December 1803

2 His Excellency has been pleased to direct our particular attention to the 2nd article of the Treaty by which the Province of Cuttack and the port and district of Balasore are ceded in perpetual sovereignty to the Hon ble Company, and for the purpose of specifying the territories ceded in perpetuity by that article His Excellency has commanded us to afford you all the information we are possessed of respecting the limits of Cuttack proper and of Balasore with its dependencies

3 With the view to the execution of the 10th article of the treaty wherein it is stipulated that a list of the names of such dependents and tributaries to the Raja of Berar who may have concluded engagements with the British authorities during the late contest shall be delivered to the Raja of Berar after the treaty shall have been ratified by His Excellency the Most Noble the Governor General in Council His Excellency has been further pleased to command us to forward to you a list of those feudatory Chieftains whose possessions are not within the limits of Cuttack proper with whom we have either begun or concluded engagements for the transfer of their allegiance to the British Government and to communicate to you the state of our negotiations with any such persons at the period of time when we received the intelligence of the Treaty of Peace with the Raja of Berar

4 In obedience to the commands of His Excellency contained in the 2nd para of this letter we feel happy at being able to state that the boundaries of few countries are better known or more distinctly marked than those of the Province of Cuttack nor has the conquest of any country or the obedience of its subjects been more completely or unequivocally established

5 The Province of Cuttack includes the Port and district of Balasore Balasore being a sub-division of the province

6 The country called by the Mahrattas the Soubah of Cuttack comprises two-thirds of possessions one of which is distinguished by the name of Moghul Bundy, the second by that of Gurgaut. The first was considered actually in the possession of the Government as a Royal Dominion or lands held direct from Government without any intermediate superior the second held by the tributary chieftains paying a stipulated Revenue to Government and who are the intermediate superiors between the Government and the tenant of the soil

7 The boundaries of these united possessions are to the Eastward, the Sea, to the Westward, the Mahratta Province of Chattisgarh, to the Southward, the Chilka lake and the Ganjam district, and to the Northward, the districts of Jellasore and Midnapore and the province of Beerboom

8 Within the undoubted limits and actually under the acknowledged authority of Cuttack, beginning at Gumsoor (an ancient possession of the British Government in the Northern Circars) and proceeding towards the British Province of Beerboom, are the Gurjat possessions of (1) Khardice (Khardha), (2) Duspallah, (3) Angole, (4) Hindole, (5) Dakanal, which last joins the independent territories, (6) Banay, Baumera and (7) Keonjur

9 We do not conceive it necessary to submit to you any observations regarding the Lohardarge territories and its dependents as they have been so correctly detailed in His Excellency's dispatch to your address of the 9th instant

10 The tributary landholders whose lands are situated within the undoubted limits of the Soubah of Cuttack, as detailed in the 8th paragraph of this letter have long since done homage to our Government and with almost all of them particular engagements have been formally executed, though some of which remain unsettled, being only delayed by necessary investigation and explanation We beg to notice in passing that it was not because it appeared to us that particular engagements were necessary to ensure their allegiance or obedience but that we considered the measure as a guard against future misunderstanding on both sides

11 The independent Raja of Koonjur is a renter of part of the Moghulbundy territory in Cuttack, and should undoubtedly be included under the provisions of the 2nd and 10th articles of the Treaty of Deogaum, as we are hereby expecting his agreement to become a tributary for the whole of his possessions in consequence of the arrangements we have proposed to him

12 We now beg leave to proceed to the consideration of the subject contained in the 3rd para of this letter, regarding the arrangements we have begun or concluded with Chieftains' tributary to the Raja of Berar whose possessions though not included within the Soubah of Cuttack proper, yet appear to come within the provisions of the 10th article of the treaty These consist of the Rajas of Boad, Ramgur, Sonapore and Sambalpore and their territories are within the Chattisgarh Province immediately on the Western frontier or boundary of Cuttack, towards the Mahratta dominions

13 The grounds upon which we conceive them as coming within the provisions of the 10th article of that Treaty are as follows

14 On the 14th November, Lieut -Col Harcourt received information from Major Forbes, then commanding a detachment stationed at the Bara-mall pass that Vakeels had arrived in his camp from Boad and Ramgur requesting to be made acquainted with and promising on the part of the Chiefs whom they represented to obey, all such orders as he might please to give them

15 On the 17th November Vakeels reached Major Forbes from Sonapore with a similar application on the part of the Banai, the Raja Betten Singh being in confinement at Nagpore.

16 To each of these Vakils, Major Forbes delivered proclamation founded on the instructions of His Excellency the Most Noble the Governor-General to the Officer Commanding the Troops in the Province of Cuttack, copy of which is enclosed No 1, and the Vakeels were told by

Major Forbes that he would acquaint the chief authority in Cuttack with the offers of obedience and solicitations for the protection tendered by those Vakeels from Sonepoor Bord and Ramgur and that when he received answers to those communications he would acquaint them with it.

17 The Vakeels sent by Lieut Cnl Harcourt to Bord are at present residing at that place where the Raja treats them with every kindness a copy of a letter received from that Chief is also enclosed No 5 by which his desire to be taken under the protection of the British Government is sufficiently proved

19 No answers or reports have been received either from Sonepoor or Ramgur but surely the application of the Chief authorities in those districts, addressed to Major Forbes by Vakeels sent for the express purpose of soliciting the protection of the British Government and on the receipt of which the papers referred to in the 17th para of this letter were immediately dispatched by special messengers or Vakeels from Cuttack entitles the Sonepoor and Ramgur Chiefs to the protection they solicited if it should be considered desirable to extend it to them

20 The official intelligence of the conclusion of Peace with the Raj of Berar was received in Cuttack on the 14th January subsequent to the receipt of dispatches from Major Broughton dated on the 3rd January announcing the conquest of Sambalpur and the submission of the district of Sonepoor to the British detachment under the command of that officer

21 It appears to us expedient to observe to you that the District of Sing Bhum which has been long in our possession is not included in the Soubah of Cuttack and would therefore require being particularly specified

22 Although it may not be particularly required by you we have nevertheless thought it advisable to enclose to you No 6 a complete list of all the Tributaries within the undoubted limits of the Province of Cuttack We have the honour to be Sir with the greatest respect your most obedient humble servants

GEO HARCOURT LT COL

*Commanding in Cuttack and
Commissioner for the Settlement of the Province*

J M F VILLI E
Commissioner for the Affairs of the Province

Letter No 4—The letter and the enclosures supply valuable information about the political relations between the Subhedar of Ratanpore and Orrisa states Enclosures 3 and 4 are the translations of the letters that Keshao Govind Subahdar of Ratanpore wrote to Major Broughton commanding a detachment at Sambalpur (No 3) and that the latter wrote to the former (No 4) They give us a glimpse of the state of things in those regions of northern Orrisa states where the authority of the Bhonsla had been established a few years before

FROM—LT COL BROUGHTON

TO—M FLPHINSTONE RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

Camp at Sambalpur 2nd February 1804

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 26th ultimo and of one from the Hon ble Major General Wellesley dated the 27th

From the moment that I became acquainted with the conclusion or peace, I have taken no steps hostile to the rights or interests of the Raja of Berar. You will perceive, however, from the enclosures in this dispatch, how essential it is to the security of the Zamindars who have attached themselves to us, as well as to the maintenance of the British good faith, that the Purgunnahs specified in my statement of the 28th ultimo should be retained by the British Government.

Having no means of knowing the present residence of the Hon'ble Major-General Wellesley to whom, as well as yourself I am ordered by the Governor-General to transmit copies of my letter to Fort William, I take the liberty of requesting that after perusal you will be pleased to transmit this despatch (or a copy of it) to the Camp with all convenient expedition.

TO—JOHN LUMSDEN ESQ., CHIEF SECRETARY TO
GOVERNMENT

SIR,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 16th ultimo conveying to me the grateful intelligence of the approbation with which it has pleased His Excellency the Most Noble the Governor-General in Council to regard the operations of the detachment under my command.

The subject of the 3rd, 4th and 5th paragraphs of your letter being in a great measure anticipated by the contents of my dispatch to the Hon'ble Major-General Wellesley and the Hon'ble M. Elphinstone of the 29th ultimo regarding which time has not elapsed sufficient to admit of a reply, it only remains for me to obey that part of your instructions which requires my sentiments on the means best adopted for securing by the interposition of the British Government, to all who are entitled to it, the permanent engagement of all their just rights and privileges.

After the most mature consideration of this point of which I am capable, I confess my inability to suggest any plan which would secure the Zamindars of the province of Sambalpoore or Patna in the engagements of their just rights and privileges.

To the attainment of this object a total change in the principles and maxims which have hitherto guided the Berar Government in its conduct in those remote and unproductive districts would in the first instance be indispensable, but even in the event of such an alteration the habits of extortion and injustice which the Mahratta Officers have acquired under the insufficient and weak Government to which they belong, the distance of the seat of Empire and the total want of communication between it and the provinces in question, together with the glaring irregularity and insubordination of the troops who receive no pay but what is individually collected and are let loose upon the country for this purpose, would, in my apprehension, render the good intentions of the Government unavailing. On the other hand, the Zamindars from long and painful experience have acquired so thorough a distrust in and bitter aversion to the Mahratta Government that no appearances however sincere would again induce them to place confidence in or be reconciled to their former sovereign. Some very late occurrence in the province of Rutenpore indeed where Bishoo Jiven Subadar under the pretence of a suspected correspondence with me has been dispossessing and in some circumstances putting to death by torture, a number of Zamindars, cannot but have added force to this sentiment, and on the whole, I feel it to be my duty most explicitly to submit it as my opinion to the consideration of His Excellency in Council that a restoration of the district of Sambalpoore and Patna to the Raja of Berar will be productive of a renewal of all the ancient grievance to their inhabitants notwithstanding any engagement to the contrary that might be obtained from the Berar Court.

The utmost tranquillity prevails through these districts and I purpose waiting in my present situation the ultimate orders of Government and the reply of the Hon ble Major General Wellesley to my dispatch of the 29th ultimo which the presence of the Rance of Sambalpoore will enable me immediately to act upon

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

CAMP AT SAMBALPORE

Your most obedient servant

18th February 1804

F S BROUGHTON

TO—JOHN HUMSDEN ESQ CHIEF SECRETARY TO
GOVERNMENT

SIR

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 9th instant and to refer to mine of the 29th ultimo and 18th instant, in which I have obeyed the commands of His Excellency the Governor General in Council to the best of my judgment and information

The enclosed letters from Keshoo Govind Soubadar of Rattanpoore more particularly that marked No 4 (in which he expressly requires that the Rance of Sambalpoore with the other Zamindars and their families who have attached themselves to the British Government should be delivered up to him for punishment) will I trust evince to His Excellency in Council that I did not overrate in my letter of the 18th instant the fatal consequences to the Zamindars which would be the infallible result of the restoration of these districts to the Raja of Berar

I have received two letters from the Hon ble M Elphinstone written at the express desire of Maharaja Ragojee Bhonsla to acquaint me with the conclusion of peace and to prevent the further advance of my detachment

I likewise beg leave to transmit a letter from the Hon ble Major General Wellesley received on the 19th instant

The indisposition of Lieut Roughsedge prevents my accompanying the whole of Keshoo Govind's letters with translation

In conformity to the orders of Government copies of my letters of the 18th and this dispatch have been transmitted to the Hon ble Major General Wellesley and the Hon ble M Elphinstone

I have the honour to be

Sir

CAMP AT SAMBALPORE

Your most obedient humble servant

22nd February 1804

E S BROUGHTON

Translation of a letter from Keshoo Govind Subadar to Major Broughton, dated the 13th Showal or 27th January and received on the 3rd of February 1804

After compliments

I had some time since this pleasure, and I hope you received the information conveyed in my letter. In addition I have to say, I hear you intend coming to this place, which is of no consequence, provided you come as a friend but you, by the persuasion of disloyal persons, and seditious zamindars, viz, Bhoop Singh, the fountain of rebellion, Sadasee Beydar, the Ranee, etc, have permitted them to cut off part of the forces of my Government stationed in Sonapore and to take prisoners the remainder carrying off a plunder of nearly ten lacks of rupces destroying wantonly a number of helpless persons, and degrading the innocent without cause. This conduct appears so contrary to the character of English gentlemen, that they never have, or will be capable of it. The rules of friendship however (since I consider my Government and your as one) require that you send to me those disloyal persons with their families on the other hand should any communal or seditious subject of yours be in this place, I will myself apprehend and forward them to you, agreeable to the laws of friendship. The news from the Southward stands thus, that the Maharaja Raghojee Bhonsla and Uncajee Bhonsla have renewed their ancient friendship with the General of the British Troops which had been interrupted through the means of Dowlat Rao Sindia, and exchanged the usual presents to their general satisfaction. The Raja has likewise again obtained full possession of his ancient territories. The General has also marched towards Ellichpore leaving Mr Elphinstone as Resident at the Court of Berar.

When first I heard of your arrival at Gangpore, I addressed my Government on the subject, in reply I received by a Camel Dawkia a letter from the Resident to your address, which I now transmit, and hope you will derive full information from it, at that time your conquest of Sambalpore was not known but I have transmitted an account of it, which when received will doubtless produce letters for you both from Calcutta and the General.

Since the Rajas of Sambalpore and Sonapore are in the presence (at Nagpore) I hope you will prevent those disloyal persons, viz, Bhoop Singh, Swadasee Beydar (Bahedar), the Ranee of Sambalpore, etc, from plundering and devastating the country, as otherwise it will occasion much trouble and embarrassment between the two Governments hereafter.

I likewise suggest that you will restore to the prisoners still with you their property, arms, etc, providing for their expenses out of the Cowrees left in the fort and treating them with all possible kindness.

I hope to receive your friendly letters frequently.

(A True Translation)

Translation of a letter from Lieut-Colonel E S Broughton to Keshoo Govind in reply in his of the 29th January

After compliments

I have received and fully comprehend your letter conveying an English one to my address. Since the ancient friendship of the Circars is renewed with additional strength, do not entertain the smallest apprehension of my advancing beyond the boundaries of Sambalpore, be assured I have no such intention, with respect to your troops stationed in Sonapore, had their Sindar voluntarily come in and submitted to my detachment a capitulation suitable to the circumstances of his situation would have been granted him, but as he thought proper to take the field in arms, and began to

plunder and devastate the country a British Officer and a Company of Sepoys with Bhoop Singh Jemadar was detached to attack him and in the execution of this order if the British Troops acquired ten lakhs and ten thousand rupees it is immaterial but you will know that to have gained five thousand rupees from those people or their effects was a matter of impossibility

The other points you have adverted to respecting Sonapore are founded on equally false and erroneous grounds. The prisoners on their arrival at this place were set at liberty with money for their expenses and the wounded are taken care of some for instance who are recovered are sent along with your Hircarras to Ruttonpore from them you will learn the truth. Those who are not yet recovered will be hereafter sent to you

I beg you to believe how sincerely I rejoice at the renewal of peace between the two governments and that when I learn the precise nature of the articles of the treaty the smallest deviation from them will not proceed from me

You likewise beg me to prevent the pergunnahs of Sonapore etc from being plundered by the disaffected Zamindars etc but on this head I beg you will make yourself perfectly easy. The Anumleek of your master in these countries had already so effectually devastated the pergunnahs that nothing remained to be carried off since our possession of them however new arrangements have improved their state and brought back the fugitive inhabitants. Respecting the Cowries in the Fort I have only to observe that if they are not the property of your Government and the owner of them comes here and points out where they are deposited he is at full liberty to carry them away

You likewise say that the English letter sent from the Resident was written on his leaving our arrival at Gangpore this also is erroneous the letter being written after our arrival at Sambalpore

(A True Translation)

Letter No 5 —The letter and its enclosures explain the Governor-General's decision to include the territories of Mayurbhanj and to the north-eastern side of the Suvarnarekha river within the province of Cuttack ceded according to the Treaty of Deogaon by the Bhonsla. The reasons for affording British protection to the Rajas of Keonjhar Sonapur Boad Sambalpore etc lying between Ratanpur and Midnapur who formerly came within the sphere of Raghoji's authority are stated. This hinterland to the province of Cuttack forming some of the Orissa states of today thus slipped out of the hands of Raghoji

FROM—SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT FORT WILLIAM

TO—M ELPHINSTONE RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

Fort William 4th March 1804

You have been furnished with copies of the dispatches from the Commissioners for the affairs of Cuttack addressed to the Hon'ble Major General Wellesley under dates the 19th and 29th of January containing a statement of the engagements concluded by them with several Chieftains occupying territories within the limits and in the vicinity of the province of Cuttack and of the instructions of the Governor General in Council to the Commissioners founded on the former of those dispatches and Lieutenant

Colonel Broughton has transmitted to you a copy of his address to the Hon'ble Major General Wellesley of the 28th of January communicating the nature and extent of the engagements concluded by that Officer with the Prince of Sambalpoore, the Raja of Patna and with the Principal Zamindars of those Provinces. With reference however to the eventual miscarriage of that dispatch, I am directed to transmit a copy of it enclosed in this letter

2 The Hon'ble Major General Wellesley in his dispatch to the Governor-General in Council of dates subsequent to his receipt of letters from the Commissioners of Cuttack, to which the preceding paragraph refers, has expressed considerable doubts with regard to the justice of considering the cases stated by the Commissioners to be subject to the operation of the 10th Article of the Treaty of Deogaon and has declared his intention to suspend his instructions to you, for the final adjustment of those cases until Major General Wellesley, shall have received the Governor-General in Council's reply to the reference which Major General Wellesley has deemed it necessary to make upon that subject

3 His Excellency in Council being anxious for the adjustment of all questions arising out of the Treaty of Deogaon with the least practicable delay, has directed me to transmit to you the enclosed copy of a dispatch of this date to the Honourable Major General Wellesley, containing the detail of His Excellency in Council's sentiments and final resolution on the cases stated by the Commissioners for the affairs of Cuttack and by Lieutenant-Colonel Broughton to the subject to the operation of the 10th Article of the Treaty of Deogaon and you will proceed to the adjustments of those cases on the principles explained in that dispatch

4 It is to be expected that the Raja of Berar may receive with regret, the Governor-General in Council's determination with respect to the tributaries and dependants of his Government with whom the Officers of the British Government have concluded engagements

5 The enclosed document will enable you to explain to His Highness the grounds of the Governor-General in Council's decision, and it will be your duty to satisfy His Highness that the indispensable necessity of maintaining the obligations of our public faith has alone influenced His Excellency in Council's determination with regard to the Chieftains and territories which form the subject of discussion. In testimony of this fact, as well as with a view to regard the interests of the Raja of Berar in the utmost practicable degree you will state to the Raja that the British Government is disposed not only to guarantee to His Highness the annual receipt of the full amount of Revenue or Tribute which he derived from the Chieftains and territories in question, but even to compensate by any practicable means for this unavoidable reduction of the extent of his dominions

6 You will state to His Highness that the British Government has no interest in wishing to establish its authority over those Chieftains and that under the arrangement which has now become necessary, it is not the intention of the British Government to exercise any authority over them, that the British Government would with great satisfaction concur in the restoration of the territories in question, to the dominion of the Raja of Berar provided the Chieftains and Zemindars who occupy them would consent to release the British Government from the obligations of its guarantee by which its faith is pledged to protect those persons, and the districts in their possession from the future authority and control of the Maharatta power, but that any arrangement by which those persons should be again placed under the dominion of His Highness, without their previous consent would constitute a violation of our public faith

7 In the cases in question the obligation of our engagements would not be fulfilled merely by protecting those persons from any molestation on account of the attachment which they have manifested to the British cause during the course of the war since the faith of the British Government is pledged to afford to the persons concerned in the present discussion permanent security against the future exercise of any authority over them on the part of the Government of Berar

8 In this place I am directed to advert to the conferences which you held with the Minister of the Raja of Berar on the subject of Sambalpoore as detailed in your dispatch No 7 dated the 27th January His Excellency in Council entirely approves the judgment and prudence which you manifested on that occasion and observes that the tenor of your discourse to the Minister was judiciously calculated to prepare the Raja of Berar for the contingency which has actually occurred

9 The following is the detail of the arrangement which His Excellency in Council deems it advisable to adopt with respect to those persons formerly the subjects or tributaries of the State of Berar who appear by the reports of the Commissioners for the affairs of Cuttack and by Lieutenant Colonel Broughton to have become entitled to the permanent protection of the British Government —

(i) That those persons be exempted from the exercise of any authority whatever on the part of the Raja of Berar or of the British Government

(ii) That with the exception of those persons who by the terms of their engagements have been exempted from the payment of tribute to the British Government the remaining persons of the description stated in the preceding part of this paragraph hereafter pay to the British Government the amount of the Revenue or tribute which they formerly paid to the Government of Berar

(iii) That the aggregate amount of the revenue or tribute which previously to the War the Raja of Berar derived from the territories described in the preceding part of this paragraph be paid annually by the British Government to such person as the Raja of Berar shall appoint to receive it, either within the limits of the British possessions or by the British Resident at Nagpur

(iv) That in the event of a failure in the payment of their stipulated tribute, on the part of those persons from whom tribute or revenue is demandable or in the event of any conduct or the part of any of those persons in question of a nature injurious to the interest of the Raja of Berar or inconsistent with the spirit and intent of this arrangement the British Government shall withdraw its protection from the person so acting

10 With a view to carry this arrangement into effect you will endeavour to ascertain the amount of tribute or Revenue actually realized by the Raja of Berar from the districts in question The Commissioners for the affairs of Cuttack will be instructed to communicate to you what ever information they may be able to obtain on this subject from the public records of the late Maharatta Government The statement enclosed in Lieutenant Colonel Broughton's dispatch to the Honourable Major General Wellesley of the 28th January contains an account of the Revenues derived from Sambalpoore and Patna but it will be proper that you should ascertain the accuracy or correct the (torn) account by obtaining information on the subject from the Raja of Berar's Mootsaddies

11 His Excellency in Council deems it proper that a supplementary article should be added to the Treaty of Deogaon specifying the names and territory of the persons who are the subject of the intended arrangements and the obligations which that arrangement imposes on the Raja of

Berar, and the British Government The draft of such a supplementary article is enclosed in this dispatch, you will require the Raja of Berar to execute an article in conformity thereto and you will transmit that article so executed for the purpose of being ratified by the Governor-General in Council

12 I am further directed to desire that you will endeavour to ascertain what will probably be considered by the Raja of Berar to be an adequate compensation for the loss of his power independently of revenue over that part of his former dominion, which will be lost to him by this arrangement The plan proposed by the Governor-General in Council indemnifies the Raja of Berar for the loss of revenue or tribute but he may still expect indemnification for the loss of dominion, and the Governor-General in Council is sincerely disposed to give a liberal consideration to any such claim You will report the information which you may obtain on this point together with your opinion upon the question for the notice of His Excellency in Council

13 In conformity to the stipulation of the 10th Article of the Treaty of Deogaon, a list of the persons with whom engagements have been concluded on the part of the British Government under the signature of His Excellency the Most Noble the Governor-General in Council is enclosed for the purpose of being delivered to the Raja of Berar You will explain to His Highness that the necessity of awaiting the reports of the several authorities employed in negotiations with His Highness's subjects and tributaries, precluded the practicability of transmitting this list at an earlier period of time

14 The separate list of districts and their respective Zamindars to which the paragraph of the instructions to the Hon'ble Major General Wellesley of which a copy accompanies this dispatch refers is also enclosed for your information

15 I am directed by His Excellency in Council to take this opportunity of acknowledging the receipt of your dispatches to His Excellency the Governor-General of the dates and numbers specified in the margin and to communicate to you His Excellency in Council's entire approbation of the discretion and ability which you have manifested in conducting the negotiations at the Court of the Raja of Berar, since your appointment to act in that station

TO—THE HON'BLE MAJOR GENERAL WELLESLEY

SIR,

I am directed by His Excellency the Most Noble the Governor-General in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letters under dates the 8th, 10th, 11th and 13th February, on the subject of the cession and arrangements to be made under the 2nd and 10th articles of the treaty of Deogaon and to communicate to you the observations and instructions of His Excellency in Council on the points referred in those dispatches to His Excellency's consideration

2 Although the doubts expressed in your letter of the 8th of February with respect to the resolution of His Excellency the Governor-General relative to the districts formerly in the possession of the Raja of Berar situated within the province of Midnapore and to the districts of Mohorbunj and its dependencies have been removed by your subsequent receipt of

the Governor General in Council's instructions to the Commissioners for the affairs of Cuttack under date the 24th of January His Excellency in Council still deems it proper that you should be apprized of the arguments considerations of which have influenced His Excellency in Council's decision of those questions

3 The districts situated on the north eastern side of the river Sonbanreka (Soobarnarekha) certainly are not included in the geographical limits of the province of Cuttack The district of Mohur Bunj (Mayurbhanj) however, according to the report of the Commissioners for the affairs of Cuttack the accuracy of which as far as it regards that question is corroborated by the opinion of the Surveyor General is comprized within the limits of that province

4 According to every information which Government possesses on the subject Balasore is not a name of a district but of a town and where an officer is stationed on the part of the Government of Berar to collect the Revenue of certain districts situated on the northward and westward of that place In the Persian and Mahratta transcripts of the Treaty of Deogaon, Balasore is not termed as a district In that part of the 2nd article which relates to Balasore the cessions are described under the denomination of the Talooks of Balasore which can only be understood to mean talooks or districts of which the revenue was paid at Balasore or in other words the dependencies of Balasore

5 The districts enumerated in the margin of the dispatch from the Governor General in Council to your address of the 9th of January are included in that description They are divided into two heads one districts situated on the north-eastern side of the Sonboneka (Soobarnarekha), and those of Mohur Bunje and its dependencies

6 The former of these are situated within the province of Midnapore and if Mohur Bunje and its dependencies form a part of the province of Cuttack it must be referred from their not being inserted in the list of Gurjaut or tributary lands transmitted to you by the Commissioners for the affairs of Cuttack that they are comprehended in the description of territory termed Moghulbundee It appears by a report from the Acting Judge and Magistrate of Midnapore that the districts situated on the north eastern side of the Sonbanacka and the district of Mohur Bunje and its dependencies were Zamindary tenures and must consequently be considered to be immediate dependencies of that district or station at which their revenue was paid

7 It seems improbable therefore to admit any construction of the 2nd article found either on the spirit or the letter of that article which was excluded from the stipulated cessions those districts of which the revenue was paid at that place

8. But admitting even on contrary supposition all those districts must necessarily be placed under the British authority by the operation of the 10th article of the Treaty of Deogaon the Persian and Mahratta transcripts of which expressly state that all engagements concluded with zamindars as well as tributaries of the Government of Berar shall be confirmed It is true that the engagements concluded with the zamindars of the districts of north eastern side of the Sonbanacka (Soobarnarekha) were merely revenue settlements. But settlements of that description necessarily presupposed and unquestionably comprehend the reciprocal obligation of allegiance and protection between the parties is decidedly as they could be established by any form of engagement whatever

9 The nature of the engagements concluded with the Raja or zamin dar of Mohur Bunje is stated in the dispatches of the Governor-General in Council to your address under date the 9th January and requires no comment. It may be proper however to observe that the peigunnahs or districts which are termed dependencies of Mohur Bunje form a part of that district and are necessarily subject to the operation of those engagements.

10 At the same time with reference to that district I am directed to observe that every information with respect to the boundaries of the province of Cuttack concerns in defining its north-eastern limits to be the river Soobarnarekha. The district of Mohur Bunje therefore being situated within that limit and extending in a south-easterly direction to the sea, must if that information be correct form a part of the province of Cuttack.

11 The Governor-General deems it extremely important to retain possessions of the districts formerly under the authority of the Government of Berar situated within the province of Midnapore and of the district of Mohur Bunje and its dependencies and is decidedly of opinion not only that the British Government is strictly authorized to retain possession of them under the provisions of the Treaty of Deogaon, but that they could not be restored to the authority of Berar without a direct violation of our public faith.

12 All the districts which are the subject of this discussion being considered to be ceded by the 2nd article of Treaty of Deogaon it appeared to be unnecessary in enumerating those districts to specify the names of the zamindars to whom they belong, His Excellency in Council has however directed that a separate list of those districts together with the names of their respective zamindars be transmitted to the Acting Resident at Nagpur.

13 The Governor-General in Council has maturely considered all the observations contained in your dispatches of the 8th, 10th, 11th and 13th of February relative to the operation of the 10th article of the Treaty of Deogaon and has directed me to communicate to you His Excellency in Council's final determination on the points to which your observations are directed, and the principles by which it has been regulated. With this view it is necessary to state what description of engagements can properly be considered to be comprehended under the provisions of the 10th article of the Treaty of Deogaon.

14 The object of those provisions was to enable the British Government to maintain the obligation of its faith in all cases in which that faith might have been pledged to any of the tributaries or dependant of the Raja of Berar's Government, such as stated to the Vakeels of the Raja of Berar and by them understood to be the object of that article. It is not necessary to the validity of an engagement that a Treaty should have been formally executed between the parties, but it is necessary that both parties should have concurred in certain reciprocal obligations and that satisfactory evidence should exist of such a contract. It is requisite also for the confirmation of any engagement, under the 10th article of the Treaty of Deogaon, that the obligation of it should have been incurred before the contracting parties received intelligence of the conclusion of peace with the Raja of Berar.

15 His Excellency in Council observes that these general principles do not differ in substance from those which are stated in your several dispatches. It remains to apply these general principles to specific cases.

16 The cases to be decided may be divided into two classes first those which have originated in the negotiations of the Commissioners for the affairs of Cuttack and secondly those which have arisen out of the proceedings of Lieutenant Colonel Broughton

17 Under the first head are comprized the cases of the Rajas of Koonjur Bond Ramguri and Sonepoor

18 Under the second are comprehended those of the Rancee of Sambalpoore, the Raja of Patna and the principal zemindars of those provinces The proceedings of Lieutenant Colonel Broughton also involve a separate negotiation with the Rajas of Sonepoor and Bond

19 His Excellency in Council has particularly attended to the remarks contained in 4th and 5th paragraphs of your letter of the 10th of February respecting the nature of the proposals of the Rajas of Koonjur Sonepoor Bond and Ramguri, on which the proceedings of the Commissioners with regard to those Chieftains were founded

20 The Governor General in Council concurs in opinion with you that those proposals cannot be considered to constitute specific engagements They certainly however declare a disposition on the part of the authors of them to connect their interests with those of the British Government and to place themselves under its protection The sincerity of this professed disposition must be estimated by the circumstances of their situation and judging by that standard there is every reason to believe their professions and their offers to have been sincere No outward indications of solicitude to accept the protection of the British Government can be more decided than those afforded by the Chieftains above mentioned The British Authority in Cuttack therefore was justified in receiving those proposals as offers of submission and must be considered to have pledged the faith of the British Government afford its protection to those Chieftains by accepting such offers of submission

21 The villages rented by the Raja of Koonjur are stated by the Commissioners to form a part of the province of Cuttack and are consequently ceded to the British Government by the second article of the Treaty of Deogaon

22 The Commissioners positively state that as far as regards the district of Koonjur the Raja was entirely independent of the Government of Berar The validity of our engagement therefore with that Chieftain cannot be affected by any construction of the 10th article of the Treaty of Deogaon

23 Adverting however to the progress of the negotiation between the Commissioners and the Raja of Koonjur at the time which the Commissioners received intimation of the conclusion of Peace with the Raja of Berar the Governor-General in Council concurs in the opinion stated in the 3rd paragraph of the letter of the Commissioners to your address of the 29th of January

24 In the month of November the Raja of Koonjur transmitted an application to the Commissioners expressing his desire to connect his interest with those of the British Government to place himself under its authority

25 In consequence of this application the Commissioners in the month of December communicated to the Raja the terms which should regulate the relation proposed to be established between the British Government and him By this transaction the faith of the British Government became pledged to maintain the proposed engagement provided the Raja of Koonjur should consent to it No measure was adopted to prosecute the

negociation after the Commissioners received the intelligence of the peace and the convenience of the Raja although not received by the Commissioners until after the arrival of that intelligence, was the result of a previous measure

26 The receipt by the Commissioners of the Raja's reply subsequently to their having obtained the intelligence of peace, can only effect the question in the degree in which it may serve to testify the actual period of the Raja's acquiescence in the proposed stipulations and in which it may afford grounds to believe that the Raja was apprized of the peace before he had signified his determination to accept the offers of the British Government and was influenced in his acceptance of them by the conclusion of peace with the Raja of Berar

27 The facts however stated in the letter from the Commissioners to your address of the 29th of January on the subject of the Raja of Koonjoor are adverse to such a supposition, and the reply of the Raja of Koonjur appears to have been received as speedily as was practicable in the ordinary course of affairs

28 Similar observations appear to apply to the case of the Tributary Rajas of Boad, Ramgurh and Sonepoor

29 Those Chieftains dispatched Vakeels avowedly for the purpose of soliciting the protection of the British Government Every circumstance of their situation justifies entire confidence in the sincerity of their desire to abandon their connection with the Mahratta State and to transfer it to the British Government The proposal of those Chieftains was virtually accepted by a competent British authority The propositions contained in the letter, addressed to those Chieftains by the Commissioners in consequence of the application of those Chieftains to be received under the British protection explained the precise relation in which they were to be placed with respect to the British Government

30 No concessions on the part of those Chieftains were required as the condition of our protection excepting their consent to the payment of the inconsiderable sum of 5 Gold Mohors as an acknowledgement of that relation in which it was the express object of their solicitation to be placed with respect to the British Government

31 No subject of negociation therefore remained The Chieftains had solicited the British protection and the faith of the British Government became pledged to afford it by the letters which the Commissioners addressed to those Chieftains and by the engagement which was formally executed by the Commissioners and transmitted respectively to the Rajas of Sonepore, Boad and Ramgurh before the Commissioners received the intelligence of the conclusion of the peace with the Raja of Berar

32 These circumstances appear to His Excellency in Council to constitute that state of facts which is necessary to establish the validity of the engagements to be recognized and confirmed under the 10th article of the Treaty of Deogaon as described in the 14th paragraph of this despatch

33 In the cases in question both parties concurred in certain reciprocal obligations, and those obligations were incurred before the contracting parties received intelligence of the conclusion of peace with the Raja of Berar

34 If the policy of maintaining the connection thus established with those Chieftains, depended exclusively on considerations connected with the local situation of the territory under their authority, the Governor-General in Council would readily remove those considerations in favour of the more

important object of conciliating the Raja of Berar by acknowledging his dominion over as great an extent of territory as is consistent with the execution of the express stipulations and with the security of the fundamental objects of the Treaty of Deogaon and if the Rajas of Boad Ramgurn and Sonepore would consent to resume their original state of dependence no the Mahratta Government His Excellency in Council would immediately concur in that arrangement but in the judgment of the Governor General in Council their consent is absolutely requisite to justify the British Government in withdrawing from them its protection

35 The Governor General in Council has received a copy of the letter which Lieut Colonel Broughton addressed to you under date the 28th of January in conformity to the orders of His Excellency the Governor General in Council on the subject of the arrangements concluded by that officer with the Rannee of Sambalpoore the Raja of Patna and with the principal zamindars in those provinces

36 I am directed to transmit to you for your information a copy of a dispatch from Lieut Colonel Broughton on the same subject to the Chief Secretary to Government under date the 18th February 1804

37 It now appears that in effecting the conquest of Sambalpoore the British troops were opposed to those of the Raja of Berar in concert with the local authorities and with the chief zamindars of the province. Of this fact the Governor General in Council was not apprized at the date of the dispatch to your address which contains the declaration of His Excellency in Council's resolution to restore the province of Sambalpoore to the Raja of Berar under a supposition that the province had been wrested by conquest from the hands of the person holding the Government of it on the part of the Raja of Berar

38 I am now directed to apprise you that after the maturest deliberation on the subject of Lieut Colonel Broughton's dispatch to you of the 28th of January the Governor General in Council is decidedly of opinion that the British faith has been pledged to all the persons enumerated in that dispatch that they shall permanently receive the protection of the British Government and shall be relieved from the authority of the Government of Berar and that the obligation of that engagement must be recognized and confirmed by the 10th article of the Treaty of Deogaon

39 Anxious to fulfill the promises which you gave to the Raja of Berar in the name of the British Government the Governor General in Council has examined all the preceding questions with a disposition to decide them in favour of the Raja of Berar His Excellency in Council however cannot find sufficient grounds to justify the restoration of the districts and the persons forming the subjects of this discussion to the authority of the Raja of Berar Those persons have received positive assurances of protection and of exemption from the oppressive control of the authority of the Mahrattas in the hands of the British Government and confiding in the sincerity and realization of those assurances those persons have united in a common cause with the British Government against the Mahratta power

40 The obligation therefore imposed on the British Government to render those persons permanently independant of the authority of Berar is commensurate with the importance of avoiding the imputation of a direct violation of our public faith

41 In adopting that resolution, the object of the Governor-General in Council is limited to the preservation of the public faith His Excellency in Council is desirous neither of establishing the British authority within the territory to be separated from the dominion of Berar by the operation of the 10th article of the Treaty of Deogaon, nor of deriving any tribute or revenue from that territory The Governor-General in Council is willing to secure to the Raja of Berar the full amount of the annual tribute or revenue which he derives from that territory and even to compensate to the Raja of Berar for the loss of power occasioned by the cession of his authority over the territory in question The Governor-General in Council entertains a hope that when all the circumstances of these cases shall have been fully explained, the Raja of Berar will admit the justice of His Excellency's decision At all events the Raja of Berar must acknowledge that this decision combined with a proposal to secure to the Raja, the payment of the whole revenue of the territory and even to compensate for the loss of his dominion over it, is wholly disinterested, and originates exclusively in an anxious desire on the part of the British Government to maintain the obligations of its public faith

42 A copy of the instructions of His Excellency in Council to the acting Resident at Nagpur founded on the sentiments and resolutions of His Excellency in Council as described in the preceding part of this dispatch is enclosed for your information

FORT WILLIAM
The 4th March 1804

EDMONSTONE,
Secretary to Government

TO—JOHN LUMSDEN, ESQ, CHIEF SECRETARY TO
GOVERNMENT

SIR,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 16th ultimo conveying to me the grateful intelligence of the approbation with which it has pleased His Excellency the most noble the Governor-General in Council to regard the operations of the detachment under my command

2 The subject of the 3rd, 4th and 5th paragraphs of your letter being in a great measure anticipated by the contents of my dispatch to the Hon'ble Major General Wellesley and the Honourable Mr Elphinstone of the 29th ultimo regarding which, time has not elapsed sufficient to admit of a reply it only remains for me to obey that part of your instructions which require my sentiments on the means best adopted for securing by the interposition of the British Government to all who are entitled to it the permanent engagement of all their just rights and privileges

3 After the most mature consideration of this point of which I am capable I confess my inability to suggest any plan which would secure the zamindars of the provinces of the Sambalpoore and Patna, in the engagement of their just rights and privileges

4 To the attainment of this object a total change in the principles and maxims which have hitherto guided the Berar Government in its conduct in these remote and unproductive districts would in the first instance be indispensable but even in the event of such an alteration, the habits of extortion and injustice which the Mahratta Officers have acquired under the inefficient and weak Government to which they belong the distance of the seat of Empire, and the total want of communication between it and the provinces in question together with the glaring irregularity and insubordination of the troops who receive no pay but what is individually collected

and are let loose upon the country for this purpose would, in my apprehension render the good intentions of Government unavailing. On the other hand the zamindars from long and painful experience have acquired so thorough distrust in and bitter aversion to the Mahratta Government that no appearances however plausible or assurances however sincere would again induce them to place confidence in or be reconciled to their former sovereign. Some very late occurrences in the province of Ruttunpore indeed where Kesho Govind Suhadar under the pretence of a suspected correspondence with me has been dispossessing and in some instances putting to death by tortures a number of zamindars cannot but have added force to this sentiment and on the whole I feel it to be my duty most explicitly to submit it as my opinion to the consideration of His Excellency in Council that a restoration of the district of Sambalpoore and Patna to the Raja of Berar will be productive of a renewal of all the ancient grievances to their inhabitants notwithstanding any engagement to the contrary that might be obtained from the Berar Court.

The utmost tranquillity prevails throughout these districts and I propose awaiting in my present situation the ultimate orders of Government and the reply of the Honourable Major General Wellesley to my dispatch of the 29th ultimo which the presence of the Rannee of Sambalpoore will enable me immediately to act upon.

I have the honour to be

SIR

E S BROUGRTON LT COL.

CAMP AT SAMBALPORE

18th February 1804

Commanding Ramghur Battalion & Detachment

Letter No 6.—The writer explains why he desires that Boad and Sonempur, and Sambalpoore should sever connections with Nagpur state and remain under the protection of the British. The strategic importance of these territories are clearly indicated.

FROM—GEORGE HARCOURT COMMISSIONER OF AFFAIRS
FOR CUTTACK

TO—M S ELPHINSTONE RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

Cuttack 24th March 1804

Your very obliging favour of the 11th instant reached my hands yesterday and I congratulate you on the establishment of the dawk. Yours being the first dispatch which has passed has come on rather slowly but I trust in the course of a few days we shall find the transit from hence to Nagpur will be more expeditious. Packets ought I think to be conveyed in five days from Cuttack to Nagpoor.

Finding your dispatch to Fort William (containing the information of the conclusion of a subsidiary Treaty with Dowlat Rao Sindia) had not passed this place, I sent by express an extract from your letter to me of the 11th instant to His Excellency.

I do not trouble you with copies of the instructions of the Governor General upon the subject of Sambalpoore Sonempore Boad etc. His Excellency's dispatch to you of the 4th and 6th instant must reach your hands long before this letter will and you will also receive from hence a dispatch from the Commissioners acquainting you with the measures we have adopted in obedience to the Governor-General's commands.

I continue to believe it likely that the Tributary Rajas of Boad and Sonepoor will refuse returning to their old masters and I will not hide from you that I anxiously wish they may so determine, for in my conscience I think Boad and Sonepoor very important possessions both as they relate to the security of Cuttack and as they will afford facility to the commerce of the province. By the possession of Sonepoor and Boad, we then hold all the navigable part of the Mahanaddi river, and the cotton goods in Chhattisghur will find its way readily to Cuttack, whereas if the districts of Sonepoor and Boad are returned to the Raja of Berar, the vexatious and oppressive taxes and exactions that are permitted under that Government will materially check, if not wholly prevent the transit of that commodity through those districts. I must fear, also should Boad and Sonepore belong to the Raja of Berar, no effectual restraints can be imposed to prevent sell (silk?) being smuggled from this province, also by which a considerable loss would arise to the British Government.

I have nothing to do with Sambalpur nor am I possessed of much information regarding it, but it appears to me, the possession of that district is desirable more on political grounds than on any other. It would certainly connect our frontier and possessions (if we are to hold Sonepoor) with those dependant on Bheerboom (Beerbhoom) and Behar and would so far increase our security, as through that district are all the roads which lead to the passes to the northward of those in Cuttack as well as to the principal pass (the Baumeen Pass) leading into the tributary district of Mohur-Bundge (Mayurbhanj).

It is on these considerations added to those of humanity, that I am so strongly induced to hope the districts alluded to will remain under the British authority.

I am not led to believe any of the districts in question yielded much revenue to the Raja of Berar but you will not find it difficult to ascertain this point precisely.

I doubt not, the Governor-General will be much pleased with the arrangements made with D R Sindia and which are certainly of considerable importance.

I have no news worth communicating to you, but whenever any reaches me of an interesting nature, I shall forthwith communicate it to you.

I am truly sorry to learn Colonel Close is so ill. He is not only a very able, but a very good man.

What is become of Major Malisben, is he still with Sindia?

Letter No 7.—This letter and the two enclosures are very important. They show the feeling of the eight tributaries of the Nagpur state towards the Government of the Bhonsla, and request the British Government to transfer their allegiance from the Bhonsla to the British.

FROM—LT -COL BROUGHTON,

• TO—N B EDMONSTONE, SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

Camp at Sambalpur, 2nd April 1804

I had the honour of addressing you on the 17th ultimo. I have now to transmit you copy of a dispatch this day forwarded to Mr Secretary Edmonstone, which contains the information I am directed to communicate to you by an order of Government received here on the 26th instant.

I request you will be pleased to forward the accompanying dispatch by express to the Hon^{ble} Major-General Wellesley.

TO—N B EDMONSTONE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

SIR

In conformity to the orders contained in your dispatch of the 6th of March which I had the honour to receive on the 26th, I immediately addressed a letter (of which I enclose a copy and translation) to the Ranees and Principal Zamindars of the province of Sambalpoore and sending likewise for several persons of the greatest influence in the country I endeavoured to impress them with a belief that the Raja of Berar would be deterred by the events of the late war from any attempts to infringe the stipulations of the Treaty of Deogaon but noticing or calling them to an account for their attachment to the British Government I was not however I confess surprized at my total failure in this attempt. No consideration they unanimously replied would induce them voluntarily to return under a Government from which they had so severely suffered and on the 29th instant I received their written reply which also accompanies this letter.

2 As on minute enquiry I found the sums mentioned in the schedule transmitted by me on the 29th January to the Honble Major General Wellesley under the head of Mahratta Revenue to be merely what had been extorted by the several Subadars on command here within the last four years when the Raja and Principal Zamindars were dispossessed and the country taken under the immediate control or what is called the Khasl Tuhseel of the Mahrattas, the apparent justice of the remonstrance in the latter part of the Ranees reply induced me to endeavour to ascertain what had been the ancient and legitimate tribute arriving from the province of Sambalpoore to the Raja of Berar and although the loss of the records of the country when the fort was stormed by Bhoopsingh made it difficult to procure as sure a proof as could be wished I think myself warranted in concluding from the enclosed examinations on oath and the collective result of many other enquiries on the spot that the sum of 32 000 Sambalpur or 16 000 Sonaut Rupees was the extent ever actually agreed upon or regularly paid from the province of Sambalpoore until the dispossession of the Raja and Zamindars and the establishment of Tannahs of Mahratta troops in every part of the district.

3 In fact the Revenue appears to have varied with the characters of the men who had the guidance of affairs at Rutenpur and the situation of things here and the only circumstance at all like a regular arrangement seems to be the settlement made by Govind Dewan in the year 1850 Sambat at the rate of thirty two thousand Cutcha Rupees per annum.

4 From the accounts delivered to me by Lachman Pundit Subedar when the Fort was evacuated of the last years collections which were made from each village without the intervention of the Zamindars who were all dispossessed it appears nearly 50 000 Sonaut Rupees would have been realized from the country but this only by means of the greatest cruelty and injustice. It was a common practice to mutilate the inhabitants by cutting off their noses and ears to extort money and indeed upwards of thirty proprietors of villages were in irons in the fort at the time of our arrival before it most of whom had been tortured by having hot irons forcibly placed and retained in their hands and various other methods.

5 That the nature of the system of collecting revenue adopted by the Maharattas in this part of the world may be satisfactorily evinced to His Excellency in Council however I have the honour to transmit a faithful extract containing the particulars of 20 villages (taken at random from the beginning of the accounts of the country delivered to me by Lachman Pundit for the information of Government promising that the sums described under the head of fines were not imposed on pretences of any

fault or misconduct, but actual additions to the equitable revenue and extorted in proportion to the reputed wealth of the parties on whom they were levied

6 The consequence of the regular system of oppression has been such as was natural. Not less than one-third of the inhabitants of Sambalpoore had abandoned the country and left their villages in the ruins previously to our arrival in it, and in Foolger, a pergunna dependant upon Patna, the divastation was so general that out of upwards of 700 hamlets not one is at this moment in existence. I have dwelt more particularly on these points from a knowledge that in extending to the inhabitants of Sambalpoore and Patna the benefits of the British protection it never was the intention of His Excellency in Council to subject them to the continuance of the measures they have sustained for the last four years under the uncontrolled pillage and oppressions of undisciplined troops, unless however, the revenue to be paid by them be adjusted with reference to the amount they were liable to previously to the occupation of the country by the Mahratta Army and the imprisonment of the Raja, this must inevitably be the case, as it appeared evident from the state of the country on our arrival that the inhabitants were driven to the brink of ruin and despair.

7 Although the revenue of Sambalpoore appears never to have acquired any considerable degree of stability I am convinced that the sum of 16,000 rupees was the highest mutual contract ever entered into by the Berar Government and the Raja of Sambalpoore and its dependancies. This arrangement prevailed until about the year 1800 when Vincajee Bhonsla passed through the country on his way to Jagannath, and being offended at the non-appearance of Govind Dewan at that time possessing the chief power in Sambalpoore he detached an army from Cuttack under Bhoopsingh and others who succeeded in taking the forts of Boad, Sonopore and Sambalpoore and in seizing the respective Zamindars of those districts. From that time until the arrival of my detachment, the country has exhibited only one scene of pillage and desolation, the bad effects of which augmented by frequent reliefs of the troops and officers who were the instruments employed.

Considerable however (in proportion to the ability of the country) as were the sums thus extorted, I do not conceive that their collective amount was at all equal to the expenses incurred by the Mahratta Government, far less is it probable, that during any of the last five years remittances were ever made from the country to the Court of Berar.

As from the tenor of His Excellency in Council's instructions to the Hon'ble Major-General Wellesley and the Hon'ble Mr Elphinstone, as well as from the terms of the proposed supplementary articles to the Treaty of Deogaon, I am led to infer that it is not the intention of Government to grant any troops for the protection of these districts and a consequent necessity to retain a considerable number for their own security will be thus imposed upon the several Zamindars, I beg leave most respectfully to submit to the consideration of His Excellency in Council whether under this supposition any addition to the 16 000 rupees above-mentioned can be justly claimable from the district of Sambalpoore.

In order to be better prepared for the speedy execution of the orders of Government, I sometime since called upon the several Zamindars of Sambalpoore, Patna and Boad to state the amount of the respective revenue they would engage to pay under the implied protection and presence of an adequate number of British troops in the country, and have the pleasure to transmit you the particulars of their reply. From this paper, His Excellency in Council will perceive that the Zamindars of Boad and Sonopore have engaged to pay a specific sum. On the subject of the former, however, as I understand that his country has been finally settled by the

Commissioners in Cuttack on the basis of their agreement with him which took place one day previously to his submission to me and was occasioned merely by the appearance of the detachment under Lieut Fountain in his neighbourhood (which also caused his separation from the Mahratta force under Sunker Bapoo) I have nothing further to observe than that as he appears to me to have less merited the favour of Government than any other Zamindar in this quarter, I fear his singular good fortune may be productive of some little dissatisfaction amongst his neighbours. On the subject of Sonepore however it is necessary for me to solicit the decision of Government that pergunna belongs from time immemorial to and forms an integral part of the province of Sambalpoore having been uniformly the appanage of the younger branch of the Raja of the province to whom it has regularly paid tribute. My correspondence and connection with the Ranee of Sonepore and the junction of her troops with Lieutenant Fountain's detachment were likewise prior to her acquiescence in the stipulations proposed to her by the Commissioners in Cuttack. Should this circumstance not be deemed sufficient however, as I think it must to invalidate her claim to exemption from tribute justice appears to require that the amount paid by Sonepore towards the general Malguzaree of the province should be deducted from the sum to be assessed upon the Ranee of Sambalpoore who will sustain an actual loss to that extent.

Although Muetiars of the Raja and Zamindars of Patna were along with me at the time of the arrival of your instruction I did not deem myself warranted in a question of such importance in accepting their sentiments for their principals to whom I consequently immediately addressed a letter but have not yet received their reply. I have no hesitation however in anticipating their refusal to return under the dominion of the Raja of Berar, whose officers have if possible been guilty of more oppressive conduct in these districts than Sambalpoore and thereby reduced the proprietors from respectable and powerful Zamindars to the lowest state of indigence and distress. Such indeed is their impoverished and depopulated situation at present that unless very moderately assessed for some years to come it will be impossible for them to recover any portion of their former prosperity. On these several points I hope to be speedily honoured with the instructions of His Excellency in Council and in the meantime adverting to the inconveniences which would result from delay as stated in my letter of the 11th ultimo it is my intention to call upon the Zamindars to execute agreements framed on the basis of the ancient Mahratta Tribute but subject to the ultimate approbation of Government. I also propose in the course of a day or two to give the Rannee possession of the fort of Sambalpoore and to direct her to assume the administration of the affairs of the country.

I have been induced by the unhealthy state of my detachment and the number of casualties daily happening to send off the sick to Hazareebagh.

As the decision of the several points which form the subject of this letter rests with Government at the same time that they comprize the information I am desired by you to communicate to the Hon ble Mr. Elphinstone I trust His Excellency in Council will deem my transmission by this day's Dawk of copies of this dispatch to those gentlemen a sufficient execution of your instructions on that head.

I have the honour to be

SIR

Your most obedient servant

E S BROUGHTON Lt Col.

CAMP AT SAMBALPORE

2nd April 1804

Translation of a letter addressed to the Rannce and Principal Zamindars of Sambalpore by Lieut-Col Broughton, on the 26th March 1804

Some time has elapsed since I on the part of the British Government entered into an agreement with you, that on condition of your uniting to effect the expulsion of the Mahrattas and consenting to place your several Zamindarees and possessions under the authority of the British Government, and provided you remained firm in your loyalty and obedience to it, that you should enjoy permanent protection and favour under its power and authority and you cheerfully acquiesced and spared no pains or trouble to fulfill your engagements and finally effected the expulsion of the Maharattas displaying conspicuously your attachment to the English Government, which has been honoured with its approbation, but as it happened that at the period of the mutual engagements above-mentioned, a peace took place between the English Government and the Court of Berar and as at that time our negotiations were not known to the General Commanding the British Army nor to the Maharaja Raghojee Bhonsla, the Compact alluded to was not clearly explained or provided for in the Treaty of peace and as after the renewal of Amity between the two Governments, the British Court feels every desire to support the dignity and power of the Maharaja Raghojee Bhonsla, for these reasons, I am to inform you that if you choose voluntarily to return under the authority and dominion of the Raja of Berar it will be very agreeable to me and meet with the entire approbation of the British Government. You will please, therefore, to reflect maturely on this offer and after due deliberation on eligibility, inform me of your decision. I have likewise to mention that in the event of your refusal to return under the authority of the Raja of Berar, you will be required to pay the revenue formerly received by him to my Government. Should you, on the contrary, acquiesce in my proposition, the British Government pledges itself to prevent your being oppressed or molested on account of the part you have taken in the late war.

A True Translation

E S BROUGHTON, LT-COL

Translation of the reply of the Rannee and Principal Zamindars of Sambal-pore to Lieut-Colonel Broughton's letter of the 26th March received on the 29th March 1804.

After compliments

We have been favoured with your letter and attentively considered its purport

Agreeably to the promises received we voluntarily submitted to the English Government under which is our sole protection, our hopes rest upon you, at your hands we expect to be benefited. We have never been nor shall we be ever prospered under the Mahratta Government, indeed our families' honour and property were in continual danger whilst subject to it, we are already reduced to the greatest distress from its oppression. How there can a voluntarily return under the dominion of a Government from which our families, honour and property have received so much injury and how can we be secure under such an authority? We sincerely and from our souls wish to remain under the British protection and our only dependance is on your favour but with respect to the revenue you have been pleased to allude to, we beg to represent that we formerly used to pay our respective and legal tribute to our own Rajah (the Rajah of Sambalpore) who accounted with the Mahrattas but since they took the country into their own hands (three years ago) there has been nothing

settled or defined they took by force and tortures whatever they could obtain from all who fell into their hands which will be made manifest to you from their public accounts you however are our master he pleased to take into consideration the produce and ability of the country and what ever sum you may fix upon we are submissively willing to pay without excuse or irregularity We and our families are ready to manifest our loyalty and obedience to the Company on all occasions and will acknowledge no other Sovereign You are our protector and we hope from you an arrangement which will place us under the permanent protection of the British Government

Signed by—

Ranee Rutten Coher Rance of Sambalporc

Raja Jujar Singh Raigarh

Raja Bissnath Sahy Sarangarh

Bowrea Ranee Luckee Pria of Soncpore

Beerhudh Jenna Leracole (Rairakhole)

Raja Inder Suar Deo Gangpore

Rajah Tribhuwan Deo Bombra (Bumra)

Rajah Inder Deo Bonai (Bonai)

Dewan Seev Singh Suctee

Taccoor Ranjeet Singh Burghur

A True Translation

E S BROUGHTON LT COL.

Letter No 8—The letter contains directions for Elphinstone to inform Raghoji Bhonsla that the Ralas of Sambalporc Patna Soncpur etc. have been taken under British protection which the Bhonsla has to recognise and ratify formally as a part of the 10th article of the Treaty of Deogaon within 24 hours. If Raghoji does not do so war will be renewed

FROM—N B EDMONSTONE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

TO—M S ELPHINSTONE RESIDENT AT NAGPORE

Fort William 18th May 1804

I am directed by His Excellency the Most Noble the Governor General in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter under date the 3rd instant and to communicate to you His Excellency in Council's entire approbation of your conduct in your discussion with the ministers of the Raja of Berar on the subject of the Raja's recognition of the engagements concluded on the part of the British Government with the Zamindars of Sambalporc and Patna and of the freebooters Balwant Rao and Raja Ram His Excellency has directed me to communicate to you the following observations and instructions on the subject of the recent conduct of the Raja of Berar with respect to the adjustment of the questions arising out of the 10th article of the Treaty of Deogaon

2 I am instructed to signify to you that the Governor-General in Council is in the highest degree concerned at the evasion and delay of the Raja of Berar in signing the list of Zamindars and that the Governor-General will no longer permit the complete execution of the stipulations of the Treaty of Peace with the Raja of Berar to remain in suspense. The formal recognition by the Raja of Berar of the engagements concluded with the Rajas of Sambalpoore and Patna form a part of the stipulations of the Treaty of Peace and the refusal of the Raja to recognize those engagements will constitute a dissolution of the Treaty itself. His Excellency directs me to observe to you that the British Government yielded to the solicitations of the Raja of Berar for Peace after a series of the most splendid triumphs of the British Arms over the confederated power of the Raja of Berar and of Dowlat Rao Sindia, at the moment when the complete defeat of the combined armies of those Chieftains had left them at the mercy of the British Government. Under such circumstances, the terms of the peace granted to the Raja of Berar were liberal to a degree far beyond the just expectations of the Raja who is known to have been the instigator of those combined aggressions, treacherous intrigues and acts of hostility, which occasioned the War, and who had consequently forfeited every claim to the indulgent consideration of the British Government. The Governor-General in Council, therefore, had right to expect from the Raja of Berar an acknowledgment of the liberality and moderation of the terms of peace, and the execution of its stipulations without any hesitation, evasion or delay. The liberality of the British Government was particularly conspicuous in its limited requisitions under that article of the Treaty which the Raja now hesitates to fulfill. The British Government not only limited the operation of the 10th article of the Treaty of Deogaon to the degree in which its operation was indispensably requisite for the preservation of our public faith, but has sincerely and earnestly endeavoured to obtain a release from the engagements with the feudatories or dependents of the Raja, which that article was intended to confirm. Under a failure of those endeavours the British Government, anxious to render the operation of that article as little injurious as possible to the interests of the Raja, consistently with the obligations of our public faith, has not only consented to pay annually to the Raja the revenue of the districts which by the necessary confirmation of our engagements with the local authorities, must be alienated from the Raja's dominions, but has even offered to compensate to the Raja for the loss of power which he will sustain by the alienation of those territories. Even if the British Government had taken advantage of the full operation of the 10th article of the Treaty of Deogaon the condition of the Raja of Berar under the terms of the Peace would still have been considered by the Governor-General to be favourable, beyond the limits of the Raja's just expectations and His Excellency in Council would have received with concern the intelligence of any hesitation on the part of the Raja to fulfill the obligations of his engagements.

3 The Governor-General in Council therefore has learned with the utmost indignation the unbecoming prevarications of the Raja of Berar and his flagrant violation of public faith on the present occasion when far from taking advantage of the just and equitable operation of the 10th article of the Treaty of Peace, the British Government has voluntarily relinquished the benefits of its operation and has even proposed to incur a loss for the sole purpose of promoting the interests and wishes of the Raja to the utmost extent possible consistently with the preservation of its public faith.

4 The Governor-General is therefore determined to insist on the Raja's recognition of the list of engagements without further evasion or delay.

5 You will therefore immediately after the receipt of these instructions make a peremptory requisition upon the Raja of Berar to execute the stipulations of the Treaty of Peace which remain unfulfilled and you will state to the Raja in the name of the Governor General that His Excellency has learned with surprise and concern the Raja's prevarication and flagrant violation of public faith that Peace was granted to him as a boon and that His Excellency is determined to renew the War if the Raja does not fulfill the conditions of the Treaty by signing the list of engagements within 24 hours after he shall receive the requisition which you are now instructed to make

Letter No 9—The letter contains instructions of the Governor-General about the agreement with the Bhonsla on the basis of the Treaty of Deogaon and the information that Elphinstone had been appointed Resident at Nagpur and ceases to be Acting Resident

FROM—N B EDMONSTONE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT
TO—M S ELPHINSTONE RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

Fort William 15th June 1804

I am directed by His Excellency the Most Noble the Governor General in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches No 17 dated 16th May No 18 dated 20th May and No 19 dated 30th of that month and to communicate to you His Lordship's sentiments and instructions on the information contained in those despatches

2 His Excellency highly approves the judgment firmness and ability manifested by you in your conference with the Raja of Berar and his minister on the 15th ultimo, and in the memorial which you subsequently addressed to the Minister Shree Dhar Pandit His Excellency also entirely approves the remonstrances contained in your notes to the Minister of which copies are enclosed in your dispatch of the 30th ultimo

3 It is not necessary to the complete accomplishment of the Treaty of Deogaon that the Raja of Berar should sign or seal the proposed additional articles to that Treaty, nor is it absolutely necessary that the Raja should sign or seal the list of Zamindars who have been rendered independent of his Government by the engagements concluded with them provided that the Raja affords in any other mode satisfactory evidence of his recognition of those engagements

4 Engagements such as those which have been concluded with the Zamindars of Sambalpoore and Patna etc are to all intents and purposes confirmed by the 10th article of the Treaty of Deogaon By refusing to recognize them therefore the Raja would preclude the operation of a principal article of the Treaty of Peace which act would amount to a direct violation of the Treaty

5 The Governor General concurs entirely in the justice of the arguments stated in the memorial which you addressed to the Minister on the 16th ultimo

6 The provisions of the additional articles with the exception of that article which declares the independence of the Zamindars being exclusively directed to the advantage of the Raja it is just under the peculiar circumstances of the case to conclude that in refusing to execute the articles generally the sole object of the Raja is to withhold his consent to the provisions of that article notwithstanding his acceptance of the list of Zamindars

and his verbal confirmation of the engagements concluded between the British Government and those Zamindars. The Governor-General therefore entirely approves your having required from the Raja a written acknowledgment of the independence of the Zamindars whose names are inserted in the list which accompanied my dispatch of the 4th March.

7 The instructions contained in my dispatch of the 18th May provide for the event of the Raja having continued to refuse to fulfill the stipulations of the Treaty of Peace. The information contained in your dispatches above acknowledged does not appear to the Governor-General to require any alteration of those instructions, and it is His Excellency's expectations that the peremptory requisition which you were directed to make upon the Raja, will have induced His Highness to fulfill the Treaty without delay by accepting and signing the list of engagements.

8 Under the considerations however stated in the 6th paragraph of this dispatch His Excellency deems it proper to furnish you with the following instructions for the guidance of your conduct in the event of the Raja having continued to refuse to execute the additional articles of the Treaty of Deogaon. If at the period of time when you may receive this letter the Raja of Berar shall not have executed the proposed additional articles to the Treaty of Deogaon, you will apprise him that the Governor-General has resolved to withdraw the liberal concessions which they contain on the part of the British Government, unless the Raja shall not only consent to execute those articles but accompany their execution with a declared connection of liberality which dictated them.

9 I have now the honour to inform you by command of His Excellency the Most Noble the Governor-General in Council that with a view to afford the most honourable and public testimony of the Governor-General in Council's high approbation of the distinguished ability, discretion, judgment and public zeal manifested by you in the course of the important negotiations which you have conducted at the Court of the Raja of Berar, as well as of the public services which you rendered while attending the Hon'ble Major-General Wellesley in the field, His Excellency in Council has been pleased to nominate and appoint you from this date to be Resident at the Court of the Raja of Berar, and you will accordingly be furnished with the usual credentials of that appointment from the Persian Department.

Letter No 10.—The letter touches an interesting point whether any tribute should be paid by the Rajas of Sambalpore, Sonepur and Boad, because the records of Maratha Government show that they did not pay any tribute to them.

FROM—THE COMMISSIONERS AT CUTTACK

TO—M. S. ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

Cuttack, 18th November 1804

In conformity to the commands of His Excellency the Most Noble the Governor-General communicated to us in Mr Secretary Edmonstone's letter of the 4th instant covering the duplicate of the Governor-General in Council's notes of the 3rd November to your address, we have the honour to state the information which we possess on the subjects noticed by His Excellency in Council.

2 In respect to the Raja's (not included in the Province of Cuttack) with whom engagements have been concluded and who have had their independence guaranteed by the British Government, the Raja of Boad (within whose territory is that of the Raja of Ramghur) is the only Raja who has actually interchanged engagements with us.

3 At an early period of our establishment in the Province of Cuttack the Commanding Officer transmitted to the Rajas of Sambalpoore and Sonopore offers of the same advantageous terms for the transfer of their allegiance to the British Government as those embraced by the Raja of Boad namely a promise never to demand tribute from them further than five gold Mohors annually by way of acknowledgment of submission (Five Gold Mohors) has been remitted to the Raja of Boad since his acceptance of the terms proposed to him in consequence of representations made by his Vakeel deputed for that purpose and which appeared to authorize that remission. The circumstance of Major Broughton's early arrival at Sambalpoore and the engagements which he concluded with the dependencies of that Province and Patna appear to have been effected before our proposals had been accepted by the Rajas of Sambalpoore and Sonopore and to have rendered the transmission of those proposals nugatory.

4 We cannot discover that the Rajas of Sambalpoore Sonopore and Boad during the Mahratta Government had any tributary relation towards the authorities of the Raja of Berar stationed at Cuttack nor do any sums appear to have been received from them on account of Revenue or Tribute by those authorities.

5 The Records of the Mahratta Government in this Province do not afford any information in respect to the amount which may have been collected annually from those Rajas or from any others not actually included in the Province of Cuttack. But from the best information, which we are able to obtain we are inclined to believe that the Raja of Boad has not for some years paid any Tribute to the Mahratta Government and that the Revenue which was collected by that Government from Sambalpoore its Dependencies and Patna was very inconsiderable.

Letter No 11—The enclosure contains Instructions of the Governor General (a) regarding the status of feudatory princes of Sambalpoore Patna Boad etc and (b) regarding Military dispositions as a precautionary measure against any hostile action of the Bhonsla in order to aid Holkar who was at war with the Company.

FROM—N B EDMONSTONE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

TO—M S FLPHINSTONE RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

Enclosure dated 23rd November 1804

Camp near Simlya

1 Transmit to Lieutenant Colonel Broughton a copy of the notes of Instructions to the Resident at Nagpore on the subject of the compensation to be offered to the Raja of Berar for the loss of revenue and dominion by the operation of the 10th article of the treaty of Deogaon.

2 In conformity to the determination declared in the 10th paragraph of those notes it is necessary that the Ranee of Sambalpoore the Raja of Patna and others who have been placed under the protection of the British Government by the operation of the 10th article of the treaty of Deogaon should now be apprized that they will henceforward be considered to be subjects of the British Government. Such of those persons as have not been placed in a tributary relation to this Government by the express terms of their engagements to be apprized that their territory is henceforward to be considered as annexed to the British Dominion. That it is not however the intention of the British Government to introduce into their territories the British laws and regulations nor to require from them the payment of any revenue nor to interfere in any respect with the

internal management of their territories That this arrangement is adopted with a view to enable the British Government to discharge with the greater efficacy the obligation of protecting the persons and territories in question from the authority of the Mahratta Government and also in the confidence of experiencing from those persons a course of conduct consistent with the relation with which they stand towards the British Government

3 Lieutenant Colonel Broughton to transmit to the several Rajas and Zamindars with whom he contracted engagements which were confirmed by the Treaty of Deogaon a communication to the effect stated in the preceding paragraph

4 Lieutenant Colonel Broughton to be informed that under this arrangement which places the provinces of Sambalpoore and Patna under the British authority it is the intention of the Governor-General to station a force with the least practicable delay at Sambalpoore, both for the protection of that province and of Patna against the reported designs of the officers of the Raja of Berar, in Rattanpoore and for the better security of the frontier of Cuttack in the possible event of the renewal of hostilities with the Raja of Berar

5 With a view to the accomplishment of this object without disturbing the arrangements for the defence of our western frontier and for the preservation of internal tranquillity, the Governor-General has been pleased to order the 20th Regiment of Sepoy (formerly the marine Battalion) consisting of 590 Rank and file and commanded by Lieutenant Colonel McLean to march with the utmost expedition for the purpose of reinforcing the troops under the command of Lieut Colonel Broughton and that Regiment accordingly commenced its march on the 18th instant. A further force also of 194 volunteer Rank and File and a force of Artillery of 2 Six-Pounders, 1 Lieutenant 1 Serjeant, 1 Corporal and 10 Privates with lascars, etc , marched on the 18th instant

6 Lieutenant-Colonel Broughton to transmit without delay a statement of the force which in his judgment will be required for the protection of Sambalpoore, and a plan of the arrangements which with this reinforcement he deems practicable for the purposes of affording that protection, of defending the western frontier of Behar and of providing for the internal tranquillity of the country

7 If these purposes cannot in Lieutenant Colonel Broughton's judgment be accomplished with this reinforcement added to the force now under his command Lieutenant Colonel Broughton to suggest any additional practicable means of facilitating their attainment

8 Lieutenant Colonel Broughton to state whether with that view it is necessary or expedient to take again into our pay the troops commanded during the last war by Bhoop Singh and Futteh Narain Singh

9 It will be necessary under any arrangement of our force that Lieutenant Colonel Broughton should proceed into Sambalpoore and continue with the detachment which may march into that province

10 With a view to preclude delay Lieutenant Colonel Broughton is authorized and directed immediately on the receipt of these notes to commence his arrangements for the march of a detachment into Sambalpoore of the strength which Lieutenant Colonel Broughton may propose under these instructions to be employed in that province and even to commence his march with such a portion of his force as he may deem expedient without awaiting the final orders of the Governor-General on Colonel Broughton's reply to the reference contained in the 6th, 7th and 8th paragraphs of this paper.

11 In conformity to the suggestion contained in Lieutenant Colonel Broughton's dispatch dated () Perwannah are now transmitted to the several Zamindars and Rajas on the western frontier to whom they were addressed at the commencement of the late war. The intimation suggested by Lieutenant Colonel Broughton has been adopted in the Perwannah to the Zamindar of Chota Nagpore.

12 The latest accounts which the Governor General has received from Nagpur tend to remove from His Excellency's mind any positive certainty of hostile designs on the part of the Raja of Berar against the British Government. Lieutenant Colonel Broughton therefore is not to consider the proposed occupation of Sambalpur to originate in a confident belief of the existence of the hostile design imputed to the Bhonsla or to be connected with any plan of offensive operation against that Chief. The extent of the force to be there stationed however must on general principles of precaution be regulated by considerations connected with the supposition of an actual state of war existing with the power of Berar.

13 Copies of these notes with corresponding instructions will be sent to Lt Colonel Harcourt and Lt Colonel Harcourt will be directed to open a regular communication with Lieutenant Colonel Broughton.

14 Copy will also be transmitted to the Resident at Nagpur.

Letter No 12 —Inimates the designs of the Bhonsla about a year back to create trouble against the British occupation of Orissa states and the Cuttack province, ceded according to the Treaty of Deogaon. The enclosure containing the deposition of Antajee Naik clearly proves the suspicion.

FROM—LT COL BROUGHTON

TO—N B EDMONSTONE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

Camp near Sambalpur 17th February 1805

I have now the honour to transmit you herewith the voluntary deposition of Antajee Naik whose apprehension I informed you of on the 13th instant. It goes fully to establish in my judgment the authenticity of the correspondence intercepted by the Honble Mr Elphinstone and to prove the horrible designs entertained at that period against the British Government by the Raja of Berar.

I have retained Antajee Naik in confinement until I shall receive orders from His Excellency the Most Noble the Governor General respecting him.

It will be perceived that the Boad Raja contrary to the terms granted him by the Commissioners of Cuttack and in violation of his allegiance to the British Government entertained and protected this treacherous Agent of the Raja of Berar both on his progress to and return from Khoorda. He has likewise been guilty as I understand of repeated acts of disobedience to the Commissioners and I feel warranted in saying that his fidelity is by no means to be depended on whilst the situation of his district and his possession of the pass of Burmoole give him the power of being very troublesome in the event of any attempt against the British territories on the part of the Bhonsla. Under these circumstances I beg leave most respectfully to submit to the consideration of His Excellency in Council the expediency of the adoption of measures to compel his obedience to the Government of which he is a subject and to deprive him of the means of acting seriously to the public interest.

Any commands of His Excellency in Council on this subject it would be in my power to execute with great ease and expedition.

The Zamindar of Boora in the province of Patna who is the only person in the two districts under my superintendence I consider as at all refractory or disaffected is likewise proved to have entertained and protected Antajee Naik and the same measures of precaution I have taken the liberty of recommending in the instance of the Raja of Boad are equally applicable to him. Indeed his marked contempt for disobedience to his superior the Raja of Patna would of themselves have induced me to have taken steps to reduce him to obedience independently of his treachery in this instance, he also has manifested disaffection to the British Government in refusing to allow the establishment of the Hon'ble Mr Elphinstone's Dawk in that Zemindary

The person alluded to in my note of the 28th ultimo who assumed the name of Maharaje Sahy the son of the Raja of Sambalpur has arrived at this place and turns out as I supposed to be an imposter, I have directed the Ranee to keep him in close confinement until the Raja and his son, whom Mr Elphinstone gives the hopes of the liberation, shall arrive

I have received from the Resident of Nagpur information of the atrocious occurrence at Saugor which added to the unexpected detention of the British Army before Bhurtpore have induced me to postpone for a short time my intended progress through these districts

Translation of the deposition of Antajee Naik apprehended by the Ranee of Sonapore by order of Colonel Broughton taken in Camp near Sambal-pore on the 14th day of February 1805

Q What is your name, caste, country and profession

A My name is Antajee Naik, my caste Kunbi (Mahratta), I live in the village of Lilgaon, Pergunnah Malkapore

I formerly was in the service of Maharaja Raghojee Bhonsla and had the command of 15 Hircarrahs in Cuttack. When the English conquered that province, I went with Balajee Goner to the Raja at Nagpur. At the same time my family arrived there from Lilgaon, in consequence of the dearness of provisions at Berar, I determined to carry them to Ruttanpore when Mahajee Naik Sirdar of all the Jasooses said to me "You have formerly a thousand times been in the presence of the Maharaja, it is proper you should pay your respects to him before you go"

I consequently accompanied this person to the Raja, when having presented me, he requested to know what I was to do with myself now. The Raja replied "whatever he pleases" Mahajee Naik enjoined that I wished to carry my family to Ruttanpore, where provisions were cheap. To this the Raja replied "since he is going to Ruttanpore, pray how far is it from thence to Cuttack" I represented that it was twenty marches, to which he replied if that be the distance will you go to Khoorda" I showed my obedience to his commands, on which he said "Go to the Raja of Khoorda and say to him from me "How happens it that you who have been a Zamindar of mine for seventy years have ungratefully joined the English, no matter, you will reap the fruits of your conduct, should I however at this period, again recover that country will you return to my interests or remain attached to the English" having delivered this message return and report to me whatever answer you may receive

I accordingly accompanied by my family repaired to Ruttanpore where I left them and proceeded by the route of Boora-Samber, Sonapore, and Bood to Barambee in the province of Cuttack where another family of mine resided. From thence I went first to the Raje Gooroo who was Diwan of the Raja of Khoorda and literally repeated to him the Maharaja's message above mentioned. The Raje Gooroo took me into the presence

of the Raja and then repeated to him what the Maharaja had said. The Raja addressed his reply to the Raj Gooroo and then directed him to repeat it to me as follows: I am accustomed to adhere to the most powerful if the Maharaja becomes so I will be his subject. The Chatta is always turned to the quarter whence the rain proceeds.

This conversation took place in the presence of Kanjee who with thirty horse was at Khoorda at the time and his people immediately went to Nagpur for the purpose of reporting it to the Maharaja.

Afterwards having received my dismissal from Khoorda I returned to my family at Burrumbee from whence in a short time I went to Nowagur where I remained fifteen days. I had one interview with the Raja and repeated to him also what the Maharaja had said to which he made the same reply as the Raja of Khoorda and furnished me with etc. At that period the English Troops were in the neighbourhood of Khoorda and Nowagur. On that account these zamindars gave me no encouragement to expect their co-operation they also asked for written authorities from the Maharaja on the subject giving no credit to what I had said but as I had not received any letter or paper from the Maharaja I had none to produce.

After going back to Burrumbee I commenced my return to Ruttanpore.

On my arriving at Boad on my way down to Cuttack the Raja furnished me with a safe conduct through his country and on my return I remained at Ghoora Ghaut near Bood Khass eight days. I also sent a message to the Raja who was at the distance of six coss requesting again an escort through his country. The Raja sent me three Cutcha Rupees and three days provisions by my messenger desiring me to accept them with free liberty to go where I chose. He also sent me an escort from this place. I went to Byraghur where I remained four days. The Boad Raja's escort conducted me safely through his country.

On my way to Cuttack I remained (on account of a religious festival) ten days at Bora Samber. I had three interviews with the Zamindar Bhagwant Boorea to whom I delivered the Rahdaree Parwana which I had received from Keshao Govind to his address. I also gave him a present of a pair of shoes from myself and he presented me with five rupees and a safe conduct through the country.

The original signed with the mark of Antajee Naik and voluntarily acknowledged to be a true deposition in the presence of Captain Rough Sedge Assistant to Colonel Broughton.

Letter No 13 —The Secretary to Government desires Captain Roughsedge under the direction of the Governor-General to discuss measures for transferring Sambalpoore and Patna territories to the Bhonsla and wants his opinion as to the proper manner of effecting it and as to the reactions the measure is likely to produce. This is in pursuance of a policy of peace and non intervention which Cornwallis had determined upon.

FROM—N. B. EDMONSTONE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT
TO—CAPTAIN ROUGHSEDGE

Camp Bankipore 12th September 1805

The share which you had in the proceedings of Colonel Broughton on our western frontier your personal acquaintance and communication with the principals or agents of those Chieftains and Zamindars formerly under the dominion of the Raja of Berar with whom Colonel Broughton concluded engagements on the part of the British Government and your

general knowledge, experience and ability have induced the Governor-General to direct me to consult with you, on the practicability of accomplishing an arrangement with those Chieftains and Zamindars which will admit of our restoring eventually to the Raja of Berar the districts of Sambalpur and Patna without compromising our public faith

2 It is unnecessary to explain to you the considerations which render the Governor-General extremely anxious to have it in his power to restore these possessions. It is sufficient for the purposes of this letter to state, that his Lordship is so, and that under present circumstances, he would consider that object to be chiefly attained by the sacrifice of a considerable annual sum of money or by grants of land applied to the purpose of compensating the Chiefs and Zamindars with whom we have contracted engagements, for the loss of their respective tenures, if they should be unwilling to maintain them under the Maharatta Government or for the deterioration of their condition by the transfer of the provinces of Sambalpur and Patna to the authority of the Raja of Berar, if they should be disposed to remain in the occupation of their respective territories

3 The engagements having been contracted with the Chiefs and Zamindars personally, and extending no further on our part than to preclude us from placing them again under the dominion of the Mahrattas without their consent, it may perhaps be a question whether we are not at liberty to restore the territory which they occupy to the Mahratta Government even without the consent of those Chiefs and Zamindars, provided we offer them a reasonable compensation as above described, and afford them in their own persons the stipulated protection. But whatever may be the merits of this question, it is not the wish of the Governor-General to proceed at present upon that principle. His Lordship wishes that the suggested arrangement should be the result of a negotiation between the British Government and the other parties to the existing engagements. It remains therefore to state to some general remarks relative to the detail of the proposed arrangement, and to the mode of conducting such a negotiation

4 The Governor-General is well aware of the decided aversion of all these Chiefs and Zamindars to the Government of the Mahratta and his Lordship concludes that no degree of pecuniary compensation or promises of security against the vengeance of the Mahratta Government although guaranteed by the British Government would induce the Chiefs and Zamindars voluntarily to return under the dominion of the Mahrattas and that rather than submit to the Mahratta authority they would abandon their tenures and retire within the limits of the Company's territory. That asylum the Governor-General could readily consent to afford them, granting them a reasonable compensation either in land or money as might be found most practicable and convenient. The amount of compensation must be regulated principally by the estimated extent of the profits which these Chiefs and Zamindars derive from their respective tenures, but it ought not to be limited to that extent, unless they should be content to accept it as an equivalent for what they may resign. The Governor-General trusts that it would not be difficult to fix the amount of compensation if the Chiefs and Zamindars should consent to the general principle of the arrangement

5 His Lordship now wishes that you should without delay proceed to open a negotiation with these persons upon the principles which have been stated, unless any insuperable or very material obstacles and objections to the measure should occur to you in which event you will state them for the consideration of his Lordship, and await his final orders.

6 Perhaps the most expeditious and convenient mode of commencing such a negotiation would be by employing the services of Icrzand Ali Colonel Broughton's Agent now at Sambalpoore. This point however His Lordship leaves to your judgment and discretion and you may consider yourself authorized immediately on the receipt of this letter to proceed upon the execution of this duty without further reference unless you should deem such reference to be necessary. But you will of course communicate to me without delay for the information of the Governor General the mode in which you propose to prosecute this negotiation together with sentiments upon the subject of the proposed arrangement. The Governor General will be glad to be enabled to communicate to the Raja of Berar at the earliest practicable period of time his intentions with regard to Sambalpoore and Patna if there should be any probability of success in the accomplishment of the proposed arrangement. In the meantime a copy of this letter will be dispatched to the Resident at Nagpur for his information with regard to the Governor General's wishes and intentions in favour of the Raja of Berar.

Letter No 14.—In reply to the proposal of Cornwallis that the provinces of Sambalpoore and Patna be transferred back to the Bhonsla of Nagpur Capt Roughsedge suggests that the measure will be resented by the zamindars affected thereby. Besides they must be assigned Jagirs elsewhere so that their numerous followers and dependants may find a means of livelihood. For this purpose he suggests that they may be assigned Jagirs in the Khurda district of the Cuttack province if that district has come completely under British administration or in Chhota Nagpur of which the Raja may be deposed. He wants to know the views of the Governor-General before he pressed the matter further.

FROM—CAPTAIN ROUGHSEDGE COMMANDING RAMGARH BATTALION

TO—N B EDMONSTONE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

Hazribagh 17th September 1805

I had yesterday the honour to receive your letter of the 12th instant and request you to accept my acknowledgments for the flattering manner in which you have been pleased to convey to me the orders of the Governor General.

As in my opinion the consent of the Zamindars of Sambalpoore and Patna to remain in those districts beyond the period of their restoration to the Raja of Berar is altogether improbable excepting perhaps in one or two instances it only appears necessary for me to submit my sentiments on the other arrangement proposed by His Excellency.

Anxious as is my desire on this important occasion to contribute to the completion of the views of the Governor General it is my duty not to conceal from you the great difficulties attending the proposed negotiation and the extent of the sacrifices it will I apprehend be necessary to make before the Zamindars of Sambalpoore and Patna can be induced to consent to quit a country governed by the Ancestors for many centuries and to relinquish property to them most valuable.

Although in offering compensation at least adequate to the extent of their sacrifices I shall doubtless find it easy to convince them of the justice and liberality of the British Government I confess I should feel much

embarrassed to point out a mode of providing for them, which would be at all eligible for His Excellency to adopt, and also calculated to reconcile the Zamindars to this radical change in their situations and condition

It is unnecessary for me to dwell upon the wellknown and peculiar aversion which the Natives of all ranks of these hilly districts have to a Residence in the open countries below the ghats. I can assert with confidence that they never would willingly consent to do so and if a reluctant acquiescence was obtained from them that they would constantly regret their unhappy destiny. I am also of opinion that no reasonable grant of money would be in acceptable or adequate compensation for the loss of their tenures in Sambalpoore or Patna because it could not be sufficient to provide for the numerous tribe of dependants, followers who must necessarily accompany them in their retirement, and whose subsistence could only be advantageously and economically provided for by the occupation of land. Permit me to support this opinion by the instance of Sahe Jaggernut Singh, who when driven from Sirgooja was generously provided for by the late Government with a pension of three hundred rupees per month

If I am correct as I flatter myself you will be of opinion in these ideas it follows that a considerable proportion at least of the proposed compensation should consist of land and that this land if possible should be situated in such part of the British Territory as they would most approve of for a Residence

I cannot without more minute enquiry than my present situation admit of, offer a decided opinion as to the situations they would prefer but I think it probable I should be able to prevail on the five Rajas of Patna to accept suitable Jagirs in the district of Khoorda in the Province of Cuttack which if I am right in supposing that pergunnah to have been lately forfeited to the Government, it would perhaps not be difficult to grant them

It is not so easy to assign an eligible Assylum for the Chieftains and Zamindars of Sambalpoore and I anticipate much more difficulty in prevailing upon them to consent to the proposed change. Their estates are far more productive and better cultivated than those of Patna and although the province labours under a great scarcity of cash it abounds in all the necessaries and comforts for which they entertain a value. Only one method of obviating their objections to the proposed arrangement occurs to me which I submit with the utmost diffidence from a conviction of the delicacy of its nature and which should His Excellency not be disposed to approve, I trust my motives for proposing will plead my apology for the mention of

The plan to which I allude is in a few words, to grant assignments of lands in the district of Choota Nagpur in proportion to their several claims, to the Zamindars of Sambalpoore. The situation and nature of this pergunnah is, I am persuaded, exactly what would tempt them, if anything can, to meet the wishes of His Excellency and its extent with the assistance of some pecuniary grants will be found adequate to provide for all the persons in Sambalpoore, with whom we have contracted engagements

The apparent injustice of depriving the Raja of Chhota Nagpur of the greater part if not of the whole of his Zamindari a necessary consequence of the adoption of this measure forms at first view an insuperable objection, but if it can be proved that in every relation in which he stands to the British Government, he has forfeited by the grossest and most criminal misconduct all right to its protection, and support. I confess I am not aware of the necessity of any hesitation to appropriate to the public advantage territory of which he has proved himself unworthy of the enjoyment.

The submitting to His Excellency the grounds on which I feel justified in making so serious an accusation against Raja Deonath Sahy I trust I shall be permitted to call upon Mr Ricketts the Collector of Bihar to state the nature of his conduct as Malguzar under the British Government and upon Mr Miller the Magistrate of Ramghur to support my assertion that in no one instance when he was at all interested has the Raja paid the slightest obedience to the orders of the Civil power but on the contrary in open defiance to it afforded constant and unequivocal protection to the most atrocious criminals whilst in his political relation to the British Government as proprietor of an extensive frontier zamindary I can safely declare and even pledge myself to prove that he has uniformly manifested the greatest disaffection to the public interest and instead of forwarding has constantly endeavoured to thwart the wishes of Government

The internal management of his zamindary is not superior to his public conduct and frequent instances of his oppression and extortion have come within my own knowledge.

The foregoing statement however I feel it to be my duty to add that much of the misconduct of Raja Dewnath Sahy has been attributed though I know not with what justice to the intriguing and wicked servants by whom he is said to be governed

I await the decision of His Excellency on this measure to propose a plan for its eventual execution which though arduous I should by no means deem impracticable Indeed the conduct of this person has long taught the neighbouring Rajas and subordinate zamindars of Nagpore to look for his punishment

On the subject of the mode of commencing the negotiations His Excellency directs I beg leave most respectfully to state that although I have a high opinion of the abilities and integrity of Furzand Ali I do not imagine his influence in the country to be sufficient to admit of his entering openly on so delicate a transaction with advantage. I apprehend indeed it might be productive of a panic amongst the persons concerned which all my exertions hereafter would be insufficient to subdue With the sanction of His Excellency therefore it is my intention to proceed towards Sambalpoore immediately after the receipt of your reply a delay which will cause no inconvenience as the road is daily becoming more practicable for troops and in the meantime I have taken the necessary measures for a quick communication with the districts of Sambalpoore and Patna

It may not be too trifling to mention that the delay of the Rance of Sambalpoore and the Raja of Patna in furnishing the funds Colonel Broughton was authorized to draw from them for the support of 150 Irregular Troops and for the payment of the salary of Furzand Ali induced me about a month since to admonish them on the subject and as the most likely means to ensure their regularity in future after communicating the late change in the British Government I took occasion to say that by the repetition of such inattention they would render themselves liable to be again transferred to the control of the Raja of Berar

I propose authorizing Furzand Ali by this dak to sound the dispositions of the Chieftains of Sambalpoore and Patna on the subject of the proposed arrangement without going to the length of a direct proposition and shall have the honour to transmit you a copy of my letter

As the remoteness of the situation of Sambalpoore from any British treasury will render it inconvenient if not impracticable for me to draw a timely supply of such cash as the completion of the negotiation may render necessary I beg leave to suggest the expediency of my being furnished by the Collector of Bihar before my departure, with a small sum for this purpose.

The Station of Hazareebagh having been lately placed under the command of Major General Clarke I request that you will be pleased to inform me how far I am to report on the subject of His Excellency's present orders to that officer

Letter No. 15 —The letter and the enclosure indicate the negotiations that Captain Roughsedge had been carrying on with the Ranee of Sambalpur for the transfer of her territory back to the Bhonsla.

FROM—CAPT ROUGHSEGE, COMMANDING RAMGARH BATTALION,

TO—M ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

Sambalpur, 21st January 1806

Herewith I have the honour to transmit a copy of a dispatch last night forwarded to Mr Secretary Edmonstone, from which you perceive the progress of my negotiation with the Ranee of Sambalpur

My success so far has exceeded my expectations, but I do not look forward to the same facility with the other Zamindars

Their arrival however must shortly determine this point but in the meantime, it would not perhaps be advisable to hold out too strong hopes to the Rajah of Berar on the subject

I shall have the pleasure of giving you the earliest intimation of the result of my proposition to the remainder Chieftains of these districts

—

TO—N B EDMONSTONE, ESQUIRE, SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT

Sir,

I have the honour to acquaint you that I arrived on the 15th instant, at Sambalpur

On the 16th I received a visit from the Ranee which however did not afford an eligible opportunity of opening to her the subject of my mission

Although it appeared to me extremely advisable to keep the negotiation a profound secret from the inhabitants of these districts in general and in particular from the several Chieftains concerned, until their arrival at Sambalpur, I deemed it equally necessary to disclose the intentions of Government to the Ranee without delay and if possible to gain her consent to the arrangement in contemplation, that I might avail myself of the influence of her example with the other Zamindars, as well as shut the door to any intrigues or difficulties that might hereafter arise on the subject from their assemblage at this place

Under this impression I added to an idea that the most eligible mode of breaking the subject was by a personal conference. I yesterday morning waited upon the Ranee and after assuring her of the entire approbation of the British Government of her conduct in the administration of the affairs of this district, I proceeded to state that for urgent reasons, it had been irrevocably decided to restore it together with the province of Patna to the Rajah of Berar, that under this resolution two modes of providing for her and the other Zamindars, agreeably to the obligations of our public

faith presented themselves one of which whilst it secured to them the privilege of remaining on their own tenures would include a special recommendation of them to the favour of the Bhonsla and an equitable compensation for any possible deterioration in their situations arising from the proposed transfer

Before I could proceed to the explanation of the second plan the apprehensions and distress as well as surprise of the Ranee and her confidential servants became as I expected extreme and the consequence was a less reluctant acquiescence than I should otherwise have obtained though by no means a cheerful one in the wishes of Government

The assurances I gave the Ranee of a liberal provision for herself and her dependants either of a pecuniary or a territorial nature added in a hint for which I am indebted to the Honourable Mr Elphinstone that it might be possible to procure the liberation of her husband and son after the restoration of Sambalpoore to the Raja of Berar had a considerable effect in alleviating her distress, and before the conclusion of the conference I had the satisfaction of receiving from her a solemn declaration of her thorough confidence in the justice and liberality of the British Government and of her entire devotion to its wishes

I do not expect the other Chieftains of these extensive districts for some time but until their arrival I shall be usefully employed in investigating the extent of the several compensations it will be just to grant, and in confirming and encouraging the favourable disposition of the Ranee whose consent appears to me a most important point gained

The body of irregulars is doing duty at this place but as I conceive the Honourable the Governor General will not deem it just that the expense attending them should henceforward be defrayed by the Ranee I purpose with his sanction should no unforeseen objection occur to discharge them with an additional allowance of pay to enable them to reach Allahabad on the same terms as their comrades under Bhoop Singh

You will perceive the expediency of my being immediately furnished with information on the subject of the lands capable of appropriation to the purposes of my mission

I have sent confidential persons to Chanda for the purpose of obtaining correct information of the operations of Nana Sahib but the nature of my late intelligence both from Mr Elphinstone and other quarters leaves little room for apprehension on his account

It appears from Col Harcourt's dispatches to Lieut Col Broughton that little or no communication has existed between the constituted authorities in Cuttack and the Rajah of Boad and the local situation of that district above the Ghaut renders it more naturally dependent on these provinces. The Rajah also is believed to have little attachment to the British interests to desire benefit therefore from the retention of his country it would be necessary to station a detachment above the pass which leads to Cuttack a measure rendered almost impossible by the extreme insalubrity of the climate. Some inconvenience also may arise if the district of Boad is retained by the British Government from the disputes which have long subsisted between its inhabitants and those of Sonapore and other adjacent pergunnahs, and which may be expected to produce mutual incursions and injuries which will give considerable trouble when the parties are subjects of different Governments

15
On these grounds perhaps it may be in the judgment of the Honourable the Governor-General more advisable to include the pergunnah of Boad also, in the proposed cessions to the Raja of Berar, and in this event, I shall of course be honoured with his orders on the subject

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Camp near Sambalpore
January 19th, 1806

Your most obedient humble servant,
E Roughsedge

Letter No 16.—Roughsedge mentions what preliminary talks he had with the Rajas of Patna, Khariar and Bora Sambhar about their transfer to the authority of the Bhonsla and what their reactions were to this proposal

FROM—CAPT ROUGHSEGE, COMMANDING RAMGARH BATTALION,

TO—N B EDMONSTONE, SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

Camp Sambalpore, 23rd February 1806

I had the honour of expressing to you in my letter of the 9th instant an expectation of the immediate arrival of the Rajah of Patna and the dependant Chieftains of his district and that of Sambalpore

2 It was not however until the 15th instant that this Zamindar accompanied by the Rajahs of Khariar and Foolgur made his appearance, and on the 17th having assembled them in my tent, I opened the subject of my mission in terms newly similar to those used in my interview with the Ranees of Sambalpore

3 The sorrow and consternation with which they listened to my proposition was extreme, and after bewailing their unfortunate destiny in very affecting terms, they for some time seemed inclined to remain on their tenures, endeared to them by an uninterrupted possession of many centuries, at all hazards, though firmly persuaded of the inevitable destitution the proposed transfer would expose them to

4 It is unnecessary I trust to assure you that no argument or means within my power or ability were omitted to induce them to change this resolution, and accede to the wishes of Government I gave them the most positive assurance of an ample provision for the comfortable subsistence of themselves, their families, and immediate dependants under the permanent protection and indulgent authority of the British Government and added, perceiving it would considerably influence their determination, that I would not quit them until they were securely and comfortably fixed in the several asylums destined for their reception, which though unable at present to speak decidedly about, I informed them would most probably be situated in the district of Khordah in Cuttack

5 This last assurance had its effect, but I was obliged to grant them time for the purpose of a more deliberate consultation amongst themselves and with the Ranees of Sambalpore, and the interview concluded with this arrangement

6 The previous consent of the Ranees influencing the nature of her advice to her relations, the Raja of Patna and Khariar, had all the beneficial effect to which I before looked forward, and I had this morning the satisfaction to receive from these persons and the Zamindar of Foolgur, a written declaration of their respectful acquiescence in the principle of

the arranged desire by Government on the assurance of an adequate provision for themselves and families in the British Territory and of the fulfilment of my engagements to accompany and in them fixed in the several situations to be assigned to them

7 I trust these terms may meet with the approbation of the Hon ble the Governor General in Council and that he will be pleased to sanction the engagement which I found it essential to the success of the negotiation to enter into

8 The Raja of Nowagur and the Zamindar of Bora Sambar both in the district of Patna have not attended to my call the former is a savage Chief of the Gond tribe whose Zamindari is situated in the midst of impenetrable jungles on the borders of the Barbarous district of Bastar He professes to be guided entirely by the example of the Raja of Kharar but I do not think it probable that he will be inclined to quit his jungles where he has little cause indeed to be apprehensive of the Mahattas Should he determine otherwise I have consented to his partaking of the provision to be assigned to the other Chieftains and at all events as his district presents no one temptation and many difficulties to the Mahrattas little uneasiness need be felt about his determination

9 The Zamindar of Bora Sambar whose attachment to the British Government as will appear on a reference to Colonel Broughton's correspondence was always doubtful detained my messenger until he had written to and obtained a reply from Ruttanpore he then dismissed him with an evasive and unsatisfactory answer I have no hopes of his arrival with me and no hesitation in declaring that his attachment to the Mahatta Government is too evident to render it either just or expedient that any offer should be made to him

10 I trust that my conduct and success hitherto may be honoured with the approbation of Government though you will doubtless perceive that the want of the Khordah report has considerably embarrassed and impeded me but I must not conceal from you that the most difficult part of the negotiation is yet to be effected I allude to the consent of the Rajas of Sonpore Raighar Saranghar Gangpore etc, the zealous co-operation of most of these chiefs with Colonel Broughton and their subsequent good conduct give them peculiar claims to the liberal consideration of Government and although they will never consent to be replaced under the authority of the Raja of Berar and fear the voluntary relinquishment of their zamines is neither to be cheaply or easily effected

11 I have however adopted what appear to me the most probable means to ensure success and I hope very shortly to have the honour to announcing to you the result

12 Permit me respectfully to request that orders of Government on the subject of the Irregulars whom I have not deemed it expedient to discharge until the conclusion of the negotiation or the receipt of your instructions regarding them

13 On the receipt of the information from Khorda I shall immediately proceed to the conclusion of the arrangements with the Rancee of Sambalpore and the Zamindars of Patna which their acquiescence in the principle of the transfer will render it extremely easy to submit without delay for the approbation of Government

Letter No 17 —Captain Roughsedge describes the general attitude of the Rajas in the matter of their transfer to the authority of the Bhonsla, and particularly mentions that of the Raja of Raigarh, who is irreconcilable to the new situation. Roughsedge also reports the raid of a band of Pindaris on Ratanpur.

FROM—CAPTAIN ROUGHSEGE, COMMANDING RAMGARH BATTALION,

TO—N B EDMONSTONE, SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

Sambalpore, 10th March 1806

1 I have delayed for some days to report to you for the information of the Hon'ble the Governor-General in Council the state of affairs at this place, in the hope of being honoured with the commands of Government on the subject of my several dispatches

2 It is with regret however I now find myself compelled to submit the failure of all my attempts to prevail on several of the dependant Zamindars of Sambalpore to consent to the arrangement desired by Government and I am sorry to be obliged to include in this number Raja Joujar Singh, Zamindar of Raighar a person whose attachment to the British interests, and services with Colonel Broughton have been repeatedly brought within the notice of Government

3 His aversion to quit his native country is not more insurmountable, than his reluctance voluntarily to return under the Mahratta authority, and the combination of these two sentiments has apparently drawn him to the wild and desperate resolution of attempting to defend his country in conjunction with all who may be similarly disposed, against any attempts of the troops of the Raja of Berar to regain possession

4 It is difficult to say to what length this determination may carry the Raja and his confederates and although I have no positive grounds of suspicion, it would not, I confess, surprize me to witness an attempt on their part to gain possession of the fort of Sambalpore and the person of the Ranee who continues, I am happy to say, steadfast to her original engagements with me

5 As I consider it absolutely necessary to guard as much as possible against such an event I have deemed it inexpedient to discharge for the present the body of Irregulars, and should any further ground of suspicion arise it is also my intention to detain here as long as may be indispensably necessary the detachment of Sepoys under Lt Lloyd whose arrival may be looked for on the 20th instant

6 I trust when the importance of preventing the scene of uproar and confusion which must follow their occupation of the fort and possession of the person of the Ranee is considered that these measures may meet with the approbation of Government

7 I had for many days strong hopes of ultimately gaining the consent of Raja Joujar Sing to the arrangement desired by Government and it was not without sincere concern, that I found myself obliged, after urging every argument that might convince and trying every channel that could influence him, to relinquish this expectation

8 In announcing to me his final determination not to quit Raighar, he added that the short experience he had of the system and principles of the British Government whilst it increased his right for the approaching loss of its protection, had not failed to create in his mind a thorough confidence on my assurance of a liberal and permanent provision for himself

and dependants under the consent required from him but that no advantage however great and flattering could compensate in his opinion and that of his family for the unhappiness and indeed disgrace which could not fail to be the result of their quitting Raighar. He concluded by saying that as he was inflexibly determined peace to return under the authority of the Mahrattas, he looked forward solely to the strength of his country and his own exertions for protection and if disappointed in these hopes that it was his determination to destroy himself and family.

9 How far the approach of a Mahratta force and the formal cession of this country on the part of the British Government would tend to alter these resolutions I cannot pretend to say but a thorough knowledge of the disposition and views of Raja Joujar Singh authorizes me to assure you that no temptation in the present state of things would be strong enough to induce him to quit Raighar.

10 Under this conviction I deemed it advisable after expressing my regret at his unwise determination to point out his inability to resist a Mahratta force and the necessity of his eventual submission to the authority of the Raja of Berar adding that I was persuaded, the British Government holding in remembrance his past services would not fail to recommend him forcibly to the forgiveness and favour of that court if he should be desirous of its interposition.

11 To this offer he appeared to pay but little attention and disclaiming all confidence in the promises of the Mahratta Government or submission to its authority he shortly after retired.

12 The great influence of Raja Joujar Singh in Sambalpoore has rendered his refusal I am sorry to say materially detrimental to the success of my mission with other Zamindars one of whom Dewan Zeeb Singh of Saktee has also given a decided negative and I much fear that the ultimate answer of the proprietors of Sonapore and Saraikala and which I expect tomorrow will be of a similar nature if the remaining zamindars those of Saranghar and Benjur (Ioolghur?) have assented to the wishes of Government and I have great hopes that the Rajas of Gangpore Bamra and Bonai will follow their example.

13 I had delayed transmitting to you for the approbation of the Honourable the Governor General in Council a calculation of the several provisions in land or money which will be sufficient for the comfortable subsistence of the Chieftains of these districts and their immediate dependants in the daily expectation of being furnished with the information from Khoorda, but the lateness of the season and the difficulty of effecting the removal of so many families so time for their settlement in that district or elsewhere before the commencement of the rainy season oblige me no longer to postpone this statement. I have therefore the honour herewith to transmit an account for the general correctness of which I can safely vouch of the incomes at present engaged by the several Zamindars and a calculation of the several provisions to which their former services and the nature of the sacrifice required from them the number of their dependants and the reasonable exigencies of their rank and situation in my humble opinion justly entitle them to.

14 As it is possible that some of the persons who at present refuse to relinquish their tenures may hereafter alter their intentions I have included the whole, and I trust it may be permitted me to add that the several sums mentioned have been the result of a very minute and careful investigation from various quarters.

15 The average of the proposed provision is considerably within the accounts of the present incomes of the Zamindars, and the only material excess is in the instance of the Raja of Patna I trust however when the respectability of his family, which formerly possessed the whole country from Ruttanpore to Cuttack, and the fidelity of his attachment to the British Government are considered that this will not be deemed too liberal a compensation for his relinquishment of possessions which under the protection of the British Government would doubtless have ever long been superior in value to the provision proposed for him

16. I deem it my duty also to say a few words on the subject of the Rajah of Saranghar whose character on the original account transmitted by Colonel Broughton to Government of the Zamindars of Sambalpoore was pointed in no favourable colours

17 Colonel Broughton long since found reason entirely to alter his opinion of this person, with whose conduct he was thoroughly satisfied, and on the present trying occasion I have found in no other individual so firm an attachment to the British Government, and so ready an acquiescence in its wishes

18 There are three Ranees at present in the fort of Sambalpoore, one whom as will appear from statement No 1, has an establishment and income, entirely independant of the lady at the head of affairs She is equally attached to the British Government and on the relinquishment of her tenure, has equal claims to a compensation I trust therefore the separate provision proposed for her may be honoured with the approbation of Government

19 I take the liberty farther to state that I have calculated the amount of the several compensations on the supposition of their being principally to consist of land and I beg leave to assure you that to the best of my judgment wholly of a pecuniary nature, they will not be sufficient to afford either just indemnification for the sacrifices of the Zamindars or to provide for that comfortable subsistence and state of respectability which I am persuaded it is the intention of Government to secure to them

20 I have this instant received a letter from the Rance of Sonapore which I am happy to say is expressive of her acquiescence in the wishes of Government, but the unsteady disposition of the natives of this country the clashing of individual interests in the families of the several Chieftains and the general fluctuation of hopes and fears at this trying juncture render it impossible for me to become responsible for their ultimate fidelity to their engagements

21 My present opinion is that with the exception of the Zamindars of Raighar, Suktee, and Saracole the arrangement derived by Government may be carried into effect, the conduct and services of the two latter persons, have not been much as to give them in effect any strong claims on the British Government but with respect to Joujar Singh the case is different and I hope to be excused in respectfully suggesting (in the event of the completion of the arrangement) the propriety of securing him by a private condition in the treaty of cession of these districts, from the resentment and oppression of the Raja of Berar

22 I beg leave respectfully to which the instructions of Government for my guidance in the event of any attempt on the part of the dissenting Chieftains to take possession of the fort and person of the Rance as also the each decision of the Hon'ble the Governor-General in Council on the subject of the several provisions for those who acquiesce

23 I have given no specific assurances to any one on this head but I have reason to believe that the parties concerned would be satisfied with and grateful for the amount now submitted

24 It is today reported on good grounds that a considerable body of Pindaries has made its appearance in Chotteesgarh and after carrying off a very valuable caravan of silks etc proceeding from Benares to Nagpur and plundering two or three pergunnahs that it has encamped in the neighbourhood of Ruttanpore with an intention of attacking that place this party is supposed to have penetrated by the route of Amarkantak from Sohagpore

Letter No 18 Elphinstone reports the discussions he had with Jaswant Rao Bhonsla's Minister regarding the cession of Sambalpore tract and the tract on the left bank of the Wardha to the Bhonsla Jaswant Rao indicated the dissatisfaction of the Bhonsla about this and his expectation of much bigger cessions as a result of the letter of Cornwallis

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL

Nagpur 16th March 1806

I did myself the honour to report to you the conversation which I had with Jaswant Rao on acquainting him with the proposed restoration of Sambalpore and the divided districts on left bank of the Wardha He came to me again early this morning accompanied by Jaikishan Rao He began by saying that he had laid before the Raja the substance of the statements which I had made to him that the Raja had heard them in silence and after some time had called Sreedhar Pundit aside and asked what he thought of the affair and that the first remark His Highness made was that it would be better to give over the Zamindary together with the territory of Sambalpore Jaswant Rao stated that he had replied by observing that the British faith was pledged to the Zamindars on which the Raja remarked that in that case the Zamindars would be a burden on the Company and this was all he said on the subject of Sambalpore His Highness then went on to mention of the districts on the left bank of the Wardha He said that he had no desire to lay himself under obligations to the Nizam nor indeed was the amount of this acquisition such as he would accept from any one He observed that even in his present reduced state there were many Sirdars in his service who had Jagheers as ample as that which it was not now proposed to give him that His Highness then said that every one knew the severe and heavy loss he had sustained it was also known to all the world that he had been repeatedly solicited both by Sindia and Holkar to join in a confederacy against the British and that the consequence of his firm denial and resolute adherence to the faith of the treaties had been the devastation of his territories by the Pindaries under the influence of those Chiefs that notwithstanding this he had never put in a claim to any renunciation whatever when Lord Cornwallis of his own free will had wrote him expressing great grief at his reduced condition a desire to renew the ties of friendship with him on the ancient footing and a determination to make a restitution to the utmost extent which good faith would permit that on the strength of this declaration of the late head of the British Government in India and of the confirmation of it by you on your accession to the same high station His Highness had formed a confident expectation that the whole of his territory was about to be restored to him a hope which he had continued to cherish until the moment that his disappointment was in consequence extreme and hat

it raised his astonishment to observe that while he was thus rewarded for his fidelity to those who had been engaged in the former confederacy with him, and who were equally bound by the treaties, which put an end to it, were now allowed to profit by their gross perfidy and decided enmity to the British Nation, and that Holkar after a long struggle with the English was quietly restored to the whole of his hereditary dominions. The Raja further observed that British Government would soon see how well Holkar would keep faith with them and would again have an opportunity of observing His Highness's attachment to them and his inviolable adherence to his engagements, which no mortifications or disappointment should even alter, and that he would now wait patiently till then in the hope that time by further proving his good faith and friendship, might at last induce the British Government to alleviate his distress. In replying to Jeswant Rao, I took no notice of the vehemence with which the Raja had expressed himself, but said that you would no doubt be equally surprised and disappointed, when you heard the manner in which the Raja had received an intimation which you of course had expected would cause the greatest satisfaction in his mind and greatly contribute to strengthen and increase the friendship which before prevailed between his state and ours.

That the Raja appeared to found his reasoning on the grounds which it appeared to me would not bear the arguments he had raised on them, the first was that Lord Cornwallis had given him reason to expect greater benefits from his friendship. Whatever might be the expression used in His Lordship's letter, the Raja must have been very sensible that he did not intend to restore all our conquests, that His Highness had made war on the English and forced them to expend their blood and treasure in their own defence. He had indemnified the Company for the loss and injury, and his afterwards conducting himself in a more just and peaceable manner, might induce the Government to assist and befriend him but could never of itself compensate for all the loss and danger he had occasioned. This I observed might have occurred to His Highness immediately on perusing Lord Cornwallis's letter, but even if this obvious reasoning had escaped him, he must recollect my acquainting him that Lord Cornwallis only wished to make certain arrangements for his advantage and not to occasion any change in the state of India and also my letting him precisely through his Minister, that there was no negotiation on foot with the Nizam and that he ought not to be immoderate in his expectations. I said that at the time I made that communication it was only intended to give him Sambalpoore, the addition of the Districts on the Wardha having been projected since Lord Cornwallis's death. I said the next point on which His Highness insisted was his friendly behaviour during the war, and the loss he had suffered in consequence. I declared that I did not mean to depreciate the merit of his conduct which had been regulated by a strict regard to his engagements, but that as he had only maintained a neutrality, he could not expect to be rewarded as an ally. The losses he had sustained were occasioned by the Pindaries, who were notoriously independent both of Sindia and Holkar, and who had occasioned as much injury to the former of those Chiefs as they had done to the Raja. I remarked that His Highness's conduct, far from embroiling him with Sindia and Holkar, left him exactly the same claim on those Chiefs, which he had on us. In adverting to the advantages derived by Sindia from his last settlement with us, I availed myself of all the arguments with which I was furnished in Mr Edmonstone's dispatch, dated _____ and observed that Sindia was now in a state of great weakness and embarrassment and that besides the loss, of reputation which he had incurred, he had forfeited the protection of the Company, of which I doubted not, he would soon feel the full value. With regard to Holkar, I said I had

no orders to explain your policy but that it was evident that if you spared Holkar when you had him in your power it was because it suited your views better to raise him than to destroy him and that what you did with a view to the Company's advantage did not apply to the present case in which you were making sacrifices for the Raja's gratification. As the insinuation that Holkar would renew the war seemed to me to imply without I remarked on that part of the discourse attributed to the Raja that there was no ground whatever to ascribe any such design to Holkar who owed his existence to the clemency of the British Government but that if such an event did occur the result of the last war had shown how easily the British Government could secure its tranquillity by driving him out of India. I then dwelt on the value of the cessions which you proposed to make to the Raja. I asked what His Highness thought of getting Sambalpoore on the great value of which province he had so often dwelt. Jeswant Rao answered that His Highness had said no more about Sambalpoore than he had before reported. I then said that the districts on the Wardha were not only valuable on account of their revenue but still more so because of the district frontier and undivided authority they gave the Raja. Jeswant Rao on this, communicated some further remarks which he ascribed to the Raja and which spoke of the Court of Hyderabad in the most contemptuous terms. The substance of them was that the Raja looked for compensation to the British as they and they alone had conquered his provinces, for if their protection were withdrawn he would find no difficulty in settling with the Nizam on very different terms. I here interrupted Jeswant Rao saying if the British protection were withdrawn I doubted not that the Raja would be gulled by the same just and friendly sentiments towards the Nizam which now influenced him. As I perceived that the manner of the proposed cession gave great offence I asked Jeswant Rao to tell me confidentially whether he thought the grant would be extremely agreeable to the Raja. If made absolutely to which Jeswant Rao replied certainly not the yearly rent of these districts is not a lack of rupees and the Raja would not take ten as a compensation for his losses. He then went over all the statements and reasoning he had used before with the addition of two very extraordinary assertions that the Raja had not relied much on my explanations as being at variance with Lord Cornwallis's letter and that he had been all the time of the last war, prepared to assist the British with a body of troops and looking with impatience till the period when his assistance should be called for. I contented myself with replying in the gentlest terms to these ridiculous assertions and through the whole of the above discussions I was careful to use the most conciliating language being rather anxious to persuade the Raja to be satisfied with what was offered him than to refute the arguments which he brought forward in proof of his goodwill and attachment to the English but at last I told Jeswant Rao that the Raja's message was so extraordinary that I did not know how to report it to you that the Raja owned he had no claim on the Company yet when you of your own accord offered to make a considerable addition to his territories, he makes no acknowledgement for the kindness but on the contrary declares that what is offered is not enough and I enquired on what footing I was to put this declarations. Jeswant Rao admitted what I had said and owned the Raja had no claims on the British and added that he was not dissatisfied with what had been done for him but that he founded much greater hopes on Lord Cornwallis's letter on the generosity of the British to others and on the consciousness of his own friendship and fidelity. After this we conversed for some time on indifferent topics and I told Jeswant Rao at parting that I should not make out my final despatch to you till I saw him again.

It is with much regret Hon ble Sir that I report to you the reception with which the proposal for ceding Sambalpoore etc. has met so different from what might have been expected

Some of the expressions of the letter from the most Hon'ble Marquis Cornwallis may have led the Raja at first to look for greater cessions than are now offered, but as I let no opportunity slip of moderating his hopes, and as by saying that the restoration depended neither on the Company nor the Nizam, I directly pointed out the part of his territories which were to be restored, I cannot believe that His Highness finds the proposed cession less than he expected. I rather imagine that his discontent arises from a comparison of his own condition with that of Sindia and Holkar and that he merely took this occasion as the first that offered to give it vent.

Letter No 19.—Roughsedge reports that the dissenting Chiefs of Raigarh, etc, have changed their mind regarding their transfer back to Bhonsla's authority

FROM—CAPT ROUGHSEGE, COMMANDING RAMGARH BATTALION,

TO—N B EDMONSTONE, SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

Camp Sambalpur, 27th March 1806

I have much satisfaction in stating for the information of the Hon'ble the Governor-General in Council, that the peaceable conduct of the dissenting Zamindars, has rendered it unnecessary for me to detain the detachment under Lieut Lloyd beyond the time necessary to procure them the supplies of which they were in need, and to enable me to dismiss with advantage Rajah Joujar Singh to his Zamindary

2 This Chieftain took leave of me yesterday morning apparently with a determination to persevere in the sentiments I had formerly the honour of detailing to you. I again endeavoured to impress upon him the necessity of his submission to the authority of the Rajah of Berar, when it should have been re-established in these districts, but at the same time added that I should with pleasure see him change his determination and accept an asylum in the British territory at any period previous to the departure of myself and the other Zamindars, and the occupation of the country by a Mahratta force

3 I also took an opportunity of repeating to him the assurances of my conviction that he would be strongly recommended to the favour of his former sovereign by the British Government, and although he did not express any intention of reconciling himself to the Mahratta authority he quitted me in a better spirit than I have reason to expect

4 I had yesterday also the pleasure of receiving the definitive consent of the Rajah of Gangpore to relinquish his Zamindaree on the terms proposed, of the remaining Chieftains, the Rajahs of Bamra and Raigarh, and the Tacoors of Saktee and Saraikala have positively refused to quit their tenures and from the Rajah of Bonei (whom I have never seen and whose pergunnah joins Singhbhoom, Choota Nagpore, and Koonjer) have not been able to obtain a decisive answer his acquiescence however I have little hope of

5 It is possible that one or two of these Zamindars may be induced by my departure and the approach of a Mahratta force to change their resolutions and solicit the provision they now refuse, but should they persevere I beg leave to repeat that Rajah Joujar Singh is the only person whose dissent is in my judgment a reasonable cause of regret, the others having been originally been placed under the British protection merely.

from their local situation and dependancy on the Rancee of Sambalpoore and not on account of any specific services performed by or separate engagements granted to them individually

6 The detachment under the command of Lieut Lloyd will pursue its route to Nagpur on the 31st instant, and I have much pleasure in submitting to Government its extreme good conduct in passing through the wild districts between this place and Huzaribagh

7 The departure of the dissenting zamindars has enabled me to call upon the Rancee of Sambalpoore to disband the greatest part of her troops and this measure is now carrying into effect but I have been prevented by a want of funds from making any advances to the Zamindars of Sonopore and Gangpore and from discharging the body of Irregulars in the pay of the British Government

Letter No 20 —Roughsedge among other things of political interest mentions that the ground had been fully prepared for the cession of Sambalpoore to the Bhonsla Sambalpoore district will be a valuable acquisition because it abounds in minerals and there are diamond mines

FROM—CAPT ROUGHSEGE COMMANDING THE RAM
GARH BATTALION

TO—M ELPHINSTON RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

Camp Sambalpur 14th April 1806

I have been favoured with your very obliging letters of the 26th ultimo and the 4th instant and return you my best thanks for the good news from Europe

I trust the stream of good fortune will be followed up by more important successes and that Bonaparte when too late for retreat will have reason to resent his rapid advance to the capital of Empire like Austria

I am extremely annoyed just now by a stupid attitude of the Post Office people between this and Calcutta by a letter from Mr Edmonstone just received after 2nd instant It appears that my definitive instructions and the sentiments of Government on all the points connected with my mission were contained in a dispatch forwarded from Calcutta on the 25th ultimo but which nothing arrived has I fear gone on to Nagpur and cannot be returned to me there ten days

The season of the year is so advanced and so much remains to be done that should the Raja be disposed to receive Sambalpoore I do not see how the poor emigrants can get to Khoorda in time to shelter themselves against the inclemency of the Rains With respect to the liberation of the Rajas of Sonopore and Sambalpoore I believe I have stated to you that it did not appear to me latterly a circumstance very ardently desired by their respective ladies What they dread of seems to be the arrival of their husbands under the protection of Nana Sahib's Officers detailed to take possession of Sambalpoore and a subsequent call upon the British Government to restore to them the Rancee I have endeavoured however and apparently with success to mitigate their fears on this head

Lord Cornwallis's unfortunate letter to the Raja of Berar will have caused you a great deal of trouble and must to the present Government be very embarrassing I really am of opinion that it would be better to waive all cessions to the Raja than to make him a present which even in accepting he shows a contempt for

Sambalpore is however, a very valuable acquisition to the Raja of Berar not only for the strength of frontier it gives him but from the great value of its natural productions. Minerals of every description it abounds and the water carriage to Cuttack renders their sale easy and advantageous. I am persuaded also that diamond mines equal in value to those of Bundelkhand might with great facility be discovered. The only way the natives at present have of finding them is by washing the sand of the Mahanadi, and in employing a few men for the last three weeks in this manner, I have procured of couple of them of about two hundred and fifty rupees value.

Should the Rajah of Berar consent to receive Sambalpore, I shall be much obliged by your informing me as early as practicable of the mode which may be determined upon for his taking possession, it is very desirable that all the Zamindars and other inhabitants of the country who may resolve to quit their tenures should be sent away previously to the arrival of a Mahratta force.

The Ranee who will be highly gratified with your intended present is quite ready for a march and I only wait the arrival of the unfortunate dispatch from Government and of cart from Cuttack to make dispositions for her immediate departure.

I have the pleasure to enclose the copy of a letter some days since dispatched. Everything is perfectly quiet to the westward. Mr Meicer had marched by the route of Udaipur for Ujjain. I am happy to find your part of the world is likely to gain so long a respite from the Pindaris.

I trust should you not have been furnished with a copy of Mr Edmonstone's letter to me of the 25th which I concluded has gone to Nagpur, that you have used no ceremony in persuing it.

Letter No 21.—The Secretary intimates that the Governor-General had approved of the willingness on the part of the Bhonsla to accept with gratitude the restoration of the Sambalpore and Patna tracts and that the restoration was calculated to relieve the British Government of their responsibility of affording protection to those Rajas. The release of the husband and son of the Ranee of Sambalpore from the prison of the Bhonsla is to be effected as a condition.

FROM—N B EDMONSTONE, SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

TO—M ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

Fort William, 12th May 1806

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatch, No 15, dated the 16th ultimo.

2 The Governor-General in Council has received with much satisfaction the information which your dispatch conveys of the Raja's acceptance of the intended cession of Sambalpore and Patna, and his concurrence in the assignment of pensions to his Ministers, in a manner more consistent with the sense he should entertain of the liberality of the British Government than that in which he received the communication of the extent of the proposed cessions. In however limited a degree the Raja may be impressed with the sentiments of gratitude on this occasion, his acceptance of the cession of Sambalpore and Patna, and his concurrence in the grant of the pensions, may be considered to constitute a certain pledge of his sincere desire to maintain the relations of amity and concord with the British Government, and a certain degree of security for the continuance of that disposition, and the completion of the arrangement may be effected to produce a beneficial effect upon all our political relations.

3 The Raja's proper acceptance of our proffered liberally therefore is considered by the Governor General in Council to be an event of some importance and the charge of these concessions, however considerable, appears to the Governor General in Council to be more than compensated by the advantages which they involve not only in the point of view above described but also in the relief which the cession of Sambalpoore and Patna will afford to the British Government from the inconvenient obligation of extending its protection to those distant and unprofitable territories

4 The tenor of your discourse to Shreedhar Pundit as described in your dispatch, is entirely approved by the Governor General in Council

5 You will of course receive from Captain Roughsedge regular reports of his proceedings in his negotiations with the Zamindars of the districts to be ceded Every exertion will now be employed to accelerate the departure of the Zamindars who have assented to the proposed arrangement, and to expedite the actual transfer of the provinces in question to the Raja's authority

6 The Raja having declined acceptance of the districts East of the Wardha proposed to be ceded to him by His Highness the Soubahdar of the Deccan the Resident at Hyderabad will be instructed to make the necessary communication to His Highness and to drop all further proceedings upon the subject

7 I am directed to add that on the occasion of the cession of Sambalpoore to the Raja Government is entitled to expect that the Raja will release the husband and son of the Rance of Sambalpoore who are at present in confinement the British Government engaging that they shall never return into that province, or excite disturbances in the Raja's country and you are accordingly desired to take an opportunity of preferring this application in the name of Governor-General

Letter No 22 —Edmonstone outlines the conditions of engagement between the British Government and the Bhonsla according to which the transfer of Sambalpoore and Patna is to be effected Ralgah and Sakli are to be excluded from this transfer

FROM—N B EDMONSTONE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

TO—M ELPHINSTONE RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

Fort William 15th May 1806

The Governor General in Council concluded that Captain Roughsedge has transmitted to you a copy of his dispatch to my address under date the 1st instant.

2 I am now directed to transmit to you for your information and guidance a copy of the instructions which have been issued to Captain Roughsedge in reply

3 In conformity to the intimation contained in the 7th paragraph of those instructions you will be pleased to request the Rajah of Berar to dispatch the officers appointed to receive charge of the province of Sambalpoore and Patna to the neighbourhood of Ruttanpoore with the most positive injunction prohibiting them from entering the province of Sambalpoore until they shall receive an intimation from Captain Roughsedge that the country is in readiness to be given up It will be proper at the same time to communicate to the Raja the extent of the intended cession and to settle the conditions of it The enclosed extract from the

Governor-General in Council's instructions to Captain Roughsedge of the 25th of March and copy of Instructions to that officer of the 13th instant, will apprise you of the resolutions of the Government with regard to Raja Joujar Singh, the Raja of Raigarh, whose country must be expected from the transfer unless he should ultimately consent to accept a provision within the company's territories of which however at present, there is little prospect. With reference to the remarks contained in Captain Roughsedge's dispatch of the 26th ultimo, relative to the probable consequences of a premature disclosure of the resolution of Government, to continue its protection to Joujar Singh I am directed to state the opinion of the Governor-General in Council, that the intelligence of that resolution when communicated to the Raja of Berar, under these instructions, will not reach Sambalpoore before the Zamindars who are about to proceed into Cuttack, have made such progress in arrangement for their departure as will preclude all apprehension of their retracting or of any bad consequences arising from Joujar Singh's example. You will therefore be pleased to state distinctly to the Raja that all the Zamindars with whom engagements were contracted, excepting Raja Joujar Singh have consented to relinquish their tenures and to accept a provision within the Company's territories. That Raja Joujar Singh, notwithstanding the advantageous offers made to him by the British Government, has refused to release us from our engagements. That under those circumstances, the Raja of Berar must be sensible that we are bound to consider the territory of Raja Joujar Singh to be subject to the British Authority, until his consent to accept a provision within the Company's dominion can be obtained, for which purpose the efforts of the British Government will still be continued. An engagement therefore on the part of the Rajah, that no molestation shall be offered to Joujar Singh, must be rendered a condition of the transfer and as suggested in the 19th paragraph of Captain Roughsedge's letter of the 1st instant the most positive injunction must be issued to the Mahratta Officer who may be appointed to the control of the ceded districts, to consider the territory of Raigarh in the light of a portion of the British Dominions, and to refrain from interfering in any manner in the concerns of Raja Joujar Singh.

4. The Governor-General in Council, is further of opinion that it will be proper to interchange written articles of engagement with the Raja of Berar according to the following form —

1st Declaring that with a view to compensate in some degree to the Raja for the losses which he has sustained in the war, the British Government has employed its endeavours to persuade all the Zamindars of Sambalpoore and Patna, and their dependancies with whom engagements were contracted to accept a provision within the company's territories, for the express purpose of transferring those provinces to the dominion of the Raja of Berar, without a violation of public faith, and that by this arrangement the British Government has acquired a right to transfer and does accordingly transfer, to the Raja of Berar, the districts communicated in a separate schedule. You will obtain the materials for the preparation of this schedule from Captain Roughsedge who as you will observe by his instructions of this date is directed to transmit to you a copy of the statement ordered to be prepared by the 9th paragraph, of my letter to Captain Roughsedge's address of the 13th instant.

2nd That the under-mentioned districts the Zamindary of Raja Joujar Singh being excepted from the transfer, the Raja, engages the Raja Joujar Singh shall on no account be molested in the possession of his territory by the Raja's officers, and that they shall not in any manner interfere with his possessions or in his concern, that they shall exact no tribute or revenue from his territory, nor exercise any authority over him and that his territory shall be considered as the territory of the Hon'ble Company.

3rd That the husband and son of the Rance of Sambalpoze be released from confinement and permitted to join their wife and mother the British Government engaging that they shall never return into the Province of Sambalpoze or excite disturbances in the Raja's territory

5 An engagement to the above effect should be interchanged between you and the Raja and be transmitted for the ratification of Government in the usual manner

6 If the Raja shall assent to these terms His Officers may immediately be put in possession of the districts to be ceded according to the plan proposed by Captain Roughsedge with whom you will of course communicate with reserve upon the whole subject

7 You will transmit to Captain Roughsedge, copies of your dispatches to Government upon the subject of these instructions

Letter No 23 —Elphinstone reports his interview with Jeswant Rao about the transfer of the Sambalpur and Sonepur tracts to the Bhonsla and on what condition the transfer was to take place

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL FORT WILLIAM

Nagpur 18th June 1806

I had the honour to receive Mr Edmonstone's dispatch dated May 15th respecting Sambalpoze on the 13th instant. I immediately applied for an interview with Jeswant Rao who was prevented by some death in his family from visiting me till yesterday. I then communicated to him the acquiescence of all the Sambalpoze zamindars except Joujar Singh in your proposals for giving up their country to the Raja of Berar and fully explained the title hope there was of prevailing on him to give up his claims and the absolute necessity that existed for preserving his independence of the Bhonsla if he insisted on its being maintained and finally I made known your wish that the Raja of Sambalpoze and Sonepoze should be released remarking that this demand required no sacrifice from the Raja as he derived no advantage from rendering those Chiefs and their families unhappy and as you are ready to engage that they should never enter or disturb their former Zamindaries Jeswant Rao entirely concurred in the reasonableness of what I had said and I then proceeded to point out the steps which the Raja was to take for receiving possession of the country. At the same time clearly stating that the Raja's officers were not to enter Sambalpoze or Patna till Captain Roughsedge should require their presence and that they were on no account whatever to molest Joujar Singh. Jeswant Rao said he would report what had past (passed) to the Raja who adopt the steps I proposed. After which he changed the subject and soon after withdrew. I have now received a note from Jeswant Rao in which he acquaints me that he has communicated my message to the Raja who has expressed in terms of great satisfaction and gratitude and requests me to write a letter to Captain Roughsedge to be sent with the officer who is to take charge of Sambalpoze

You will observe Hon ble Sir that I have demanded the release of the Raja of Sonepoze as well as that of the Raja of Sambalpoze. It occurred to me on receiving Mr Edmonstone's dispatch that the name of the former Chief had been left out unintentionally and I soon after received a letter from Captain Roughsedge requesting me to stipulate for him as well as

for the others. The great reluctance which the Nagpur Government has always shown to enter into written engagements about Sambalpore owing to the caprice of Nana Sahib, made it appear expedient to obtain the Raja's consent to the conditions of the restoration of that country before I required him to sign any treaty on the subject. But I shall now propose his entering into the agreement directed in Mr Edmonstone's dispatch, which I can draw out immediately with the exception of the detailed schedules for which I must wait for information from Captain Roughsedge.

Letter No. 24.—Elphinstone reports the hesitancy of the Bhonsla to release the Rajas of Sonapore and Sambalpore as a condition precedent to the cession of those tracts. He also mentions what he heard from Jeswant Rao about the pretensions of the Holkar after the peace.

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR,
TO—THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL, FORT WILLIAM

Nagpur, 20th June 1806

I was yesterday visited by Jeswant Rao who came accompanied by the Officer intended to take charge of Sambalpore. After communicating a message from the Raja, expressive of his satisfaction and gratitude, he begged me to furnish the officer with a letter to Captain Roughsedge, as he was ordered to set out on his journey that very day. I promised to give him the letter and proceeded to enquire what the Raja had said regarding Joujar Singh and the imprisoned Rajas. He said he had communicated the case of Joujar Singh to the Raja, who would issue the necessary orders. He then made me repeat what I had said concerning that zamindar and said he found he had understood me correctly and then repeated the whole to the officer who is going to Sambalpore and enjoined him to abstain from all interference with Joujar Singh. He next acquainted me with the Raja's wish, that the question of the two Rajas should be postponed till the actual cession of Sambalpore should have raised in Nana Sahib, a disposition to comply with such a request. To this I said, I had no objection, provided the Raja would engage their release at a fixed time, and I then communicated the whole of my instructions respecting the agreement which I am desired to conclude, I also explained that I ought not in strictness to give the letter to Captain Roughsedge till the agreement was signed, but that I was induced to do so, considering the distance of Sambalpore. I thought it certain the affair would be concluded long before the Raja's officers could reach the frontier. I however requested him to say before he received the letter, whether he thought any difficulty would be made about the release of the Rajas or the security of Joujar Singh. Jeswant Rao said he was sure there would not but that if I pleased I might keep the letter, till I had an answer on those heads from the Raja himself. I said he might take the letter, as from the Raja's answer to my message, it was evident he approved the conditions of the cessions, and besides, if any unexpected difficulty arise, the paper could be returned.

In my last dispatch, I omitted to report part of Jeswant Rao's discourse, which considering the occasion is of some importance. After our conversation regarding the proposed restoration was over, Jeswant Rao enquired whether it was true that some further cessions were about to be made to Holkar. I replied that no cessions whatever had been made hitherto, and that on the contrary, a large portion of the Holkar territory remained in our occupation. Jeswant Rao then said, that Holkar's Vakeel gave a different account: that person, he said, was in the habit of enlarging on the long war which his master had maintained alone, the

great extent of country over which he had drawn the English armies the combinations he was on the point of forming with states entirely unconnected with the Maratta Nation and on the successful termination of the contest. The Vakeel described the overtures for peace as originating in the English and the terms and being perfectly agreeable to the wishes of his master who had brought his army to the highest pitch of improvement recovered all his hereditary dominions and after all established a much stronger friendship with the English, than Sindia or the Bhonsla had obtained by their submission. Jeswant Rao now concluded by saying that Holkar had now put in claims to have some places of the Doab given him in the way of friendship. In reply to the above I noticed the falsehood of the whole of Holkar's statements in course of last war and remarked that he appeared not to have altered his habits since the peace. I said that the length of an army's flight was an uncommon subject for boasting that constant defeats were not likely to be very risky or perilous after having been entirely conquered by an enemy that the whole account of the negotiations for peace which Jeswant Rao had just attributed to Holkar's Vakeel was false that he had said for terms when he could form no confederacy, and that he probably retained too lively a recollection of the calamities he suffered during the war to venture on any demands which might provoke a renewal of it.

Letter No 25 —The letter reports the difficulties that the Bhonsla is encountering in taking possession of the Sambalpur and Sonapur territories and the suggestions of the Resident how these difficulties can be overcome

FROM—M FLPHINSTONF RESIDENT AT NAGPUR
TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL

Nagpur 6th December 1806

I yesterday received a visit from Jeswant Rao Ramchandra at which the following conversation took place on the subject of Sambalpure

Jeswant Rao began by producing letter from Keshao Govind the Amil of Ruttanpore to Nana Sahib in which he stated that he had set out with the troops he could spare from Ruttanpore to take possession of Sambalpure that such of the Zamindars as he had communicated with pretended to be ready to admit the Raja's officers but while they were making these professions they had formed a league of which Joutar Singh of Rajgarh was the real head and had assembled troops to defend Sambalpure while the Zamindars of Patna among which he particularly specified Buggut Bunga the Raja of Bora Sambar had made an incursion into the Bhonsla's country plundered some villages and attempted to surprise an amildar who was encamped in the neighbourhood with a small body of troops. At the same time Keshao Govind received intimation that it was the intention of the Zamindars to attack him and he determined to fall back on his own province after reading the letter. Jeswant Rao said that Nana Sahib on receiving it had carried it to Raja who had sent him (Jeswant Rao) to acquaint me with these transactions by which the gift of Sambalpure though intended and still acknowledged as a kindness was likely to be converted into a source of detriment to His Highness's affairs and to request that I would favour him with advice on the steps most proper for him to take. In reply to this I said that when Sambalpure was occupied by the British the Raja had shown the utmost anxiety about its being evacuated though he knew that he would have the Zamindars to contend with as he

had now that after the adjustment of that question the British had withdrawn their troops from the Province of which they transferred the Government to the Zamindars that in consequence of your anxiety to gratify His Highness you had sent Captain Roughsedge not with a force to secure the country for the Bhonsla but as an ambassador to persuade the Zamindars to release from our engagements. He having succeeded in the object you had directed me to inform the Raja that the British Government transferred its sovereignty over Sambalpoore to the Raja, His Highness at the same time apprizing him that he would receive no assistance in taking possession of it. That His Highness had accepted the province on those terms a treaty had been concluded and the affair ought to be at an end, His Highness had never the less advanced a claim to be put in possession of the territory. I could admit nothing of the sort and consequently I must beg him to excuse my interfering more with his transactions in Sambalpoore, than I did with those of his other dominions.

Jeshwant Rao observed that he had omitted to mention that after my last conversation with him he had reported all I had said to the Raja who admitted in the fullest manner that he had no claim on the British Government for aid in taking possession of Sambalpoore. He said His Highness only views at present were to inform you of the difficulties he laboured under in the hope that you would show your friendship by relieving him from them. Jeshwant Rao went on to state that from the original cession of Sambalpoore Nana Sahib had never ceased to reproach the Raja with the loss he had suffered and to importune him for a compensation which the Raja had granted him, that he, Nana Sahib, was extremely dissatisfied with the manner in which Sambalpoore was restored to him and complained of it to the Raja saying that he had never desired the restoration of Sambalpoore, that he had a right to a certain annual revenue and while he received it he was indifferent from what source it was derived but he had just ground of complaint if in lieu of part of it he was assigned a country which not only afforded nothing but occasioned damage to his other possessions. Jeshwant Rao said it was in vain to argue with Nana Sahib for he never considered his own misconduct in detaining the Rajas of Sonepore and Sambalpoore and neglecting to send an adequate force to the latter country but threw all the blame on the Raja's ministers whom he accused of deceiving him with regard to the terms on which Sambalpoore was to be given up. The Raja's mother with her usual partiality for her younger son took the same view of the question and then constant remonstrances rendered the Raja very unhappy that His Highness therefore, intreated that you would adopt any measure that was agreeable to you to relieve him and to give full effect to the very friendly arrangement you had made in his favour. Jeshwant Rao proceeded to propose that Mr Jenkins should be directed to halt at Sambalpoore and to endeavour to effect an adjustment by threatening the Zamindars with the severe displeasure of the British Government if they continued to oppose the Raja's authority. I said I could take upon me to say with confidence that there was nothing consistent with propriety and with the dignity of the British Government which you would not do to secure the peaceable occupation of Sambalpoore by the Raja but I was certain you would never consent to threaten the Zamindars with punishment that you did not intend to inflict. Jeshwant Rao said that the troops of Hazaribagh were at hand and that it would require nothing but their appearance to reduce the Zamindars. I replied that I knew you would not consent to employ British troops against Sambalpoore as that measure would be inconsistent with your former declarations with your general policy and indeed with the relation in which the Zamindars stood towards the British Government. I added

that though you would be unwilling to interfere in the affairs of Sambal pore I had no doubt your goodwill towards the Raja would induce you to make another attempt by letter to convince the Zamindars of the said consequences of their resistance but I said I could not promise that you would take that step which indeed afforded but little prospect of success as everything that could be done by argument had been tried during Captain Roughsedge's stay at Sambal pore I said that in all events it was absolutely indispensable that the Raja should send a strong body of troops to the frontier that such a step would be necessary to enable him to retain Sambal pore even if he were once in possession of it and if I might assume it as a thing certain that he would prepare such a force there were three plans which I could suggest to him and which I would submit to you Hon ble Sir without engaging that you would consent to any of them The first was that the Rajas of Sambal pore and Sonapore be released and an establishment in the company's province again offered to the Zamindars 2nd—That in case Nana Sahib distrusted the fidelity of the confined Rajas the Ranees and other Zamindars should be left in possession under the Bhonslas The Hon ble the Company should engage to grant the imprisoned Rajas a provision within the British dominions and they should not be delivered over until the Bhonsla's troops were in possession of Sambal pore 3rd—That in case Nana Sahib should persevere in his resolution to keep the Rajas imprisoned the offer of an establishment in the British dominions should be renewed to the Ranees and the other Zamindars while under the impression which would be made on their minds by the approach of a strong body of the Raja's troops to their frontier I said each of those Plans (particularly the 1st and 2nd) was even at this time attended with some probability of success I would recommend to the Raja not to reply on your answer but make immediate arrangements for making a force to Sambal pore as everyday strengthened the means of resistance in the hands of the Zamindars and increased their confidence in their ability to withstand the Raja's attempts to subject them Jeswant Rao replied that he would acquaint the Raja with the substance of my discourse but that he had too low an opinion of the talents and moderation of the younger brother to be sanguine in his hopes of the release of the Zamindars With respect to sending a force he observes that the Raja's troops were all employed in defending the frontier from the Pindaries nor could they be prevailed on to march a start for Sambal pore unless their arrears were paid and that Nana Sahib had spent so much money in the many foolish enterprise and he had engaged in that he really had not the means of raising a respectable body of troops I observed that money might be raised on the credit of the revenue of Sambal pore that it was but a small sum that was required and that without an army it would be impossible for the Raja to get possession of Sambal pore even if you were to consent to any of the plans I suggested for which I would by no means engage I added that if Nana Sahib was so unreasonable as to refuse to take such measures as were necessary to forward his own views however you might regret the inconvenience which the Raja suffered from the complaint of his family You would be under the necessity of abstaining from all interference in an affair which was abandoned by those whom it most nearly concerned

I hope, Hon'ble Sir, that the offers I have made to the Raja will meet with your approbation, I was led to make them from conviction that they were entirely in the spirit of your instructions to me at all the different stages. If Nana Sahib acts on the negotiation any of them I conceive from Captain Roughsedge's statements that it would be successful with the Zamindars and your original plan would be effected which appears to me to be still desirable both with a view to conciliating the Bhonsla and to the welfare of the Zamindars in whom I think it probable that you may still take an interest notwithstanding the levity and inconsistency of their late conduct. If all the plans should be rejected by Nana Sahib neither he nor the Raja can pretend to have the slightest ground for discontent and they will be prevented from renewing the solicitations which they have of late brought forward and which it may be thought unfriendly absolutely to reject.

Notwithstanding the above arguments I have been very careful to prepare the Raja for the event of your refusal to interfere in the affairs of Sambalpoore you will observe that His Highness had expressly renounced all claims to such interference and that I have pointed out to him the necessity of his proceeding in all his arrangements regarding that province without waiting your answer.

BHONSLA-NIZAM DISPUTE

Letter No 1 —The enclosures to this letter give an idea of the claims of the Bhonsla upon the Nizam

FROM—COLONEL KIRKPATRICK RESIDENT AT HYDRABAD

TO—MR ELPHINSTONE RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

Hyderabad 18th January 1805

I have the honour to transmit to you in eight numbers extracts from my dispatches to his Excellency the Governor General and copies of my correspondence with the Honble Major General Wellesley on the subject of the claims of the Raja of Berar upon His Highness the Soobadar the substance of which has from time to time been conveyed to you by my private communications

Extract of a letter from the Resident at Hyderabad to His Excellency the Most Noble the Governor General

* * *

10 My reason for reminding the minister once more my Lord, of the undischarged balance due from this Government to the Raja of Berar originated in the repeated and urgent representation made to me on the subject by the Berar Raja's Vakeels who is sufficiently sensible however that nothing has been left undone by me to obtain satisfaction for his master on the foregoing points

11 This Vakeel showed me lately a memorial which he proposed he said delivering to the minister but which was couched in such strong if not menacing language and referred moreover to so many extra demands that were perfectly new to me that combining this latter circumstance and the whole tone of the remonstrance itself with the late irruption of the Berar Raja's Brother's troops into the Nizam's Territories as noticed by Mr Elphinstone in his late dispatches I could consider this production in no other light than that of a manifesto and accordingly gave the Berar Vakeel to understand in reply that though at all times ready to lend my aid and influence in support of his master's just demand I could by no means think of countenancing so intemperate a performance as the one in question A hint which produced the requisite effect by occasioning the suppressions of this paper and inouced me the more readily to make once more the representation described in the enclosed report in favour of the Bhonsla's claims for arrears of the revenue on account of the districts around Gawilghur

A true extract

CHARLES RUSSELL

Extract from a translation of Moonshy Aziz Oollah's report of his conference with Meer Allum on the 25th December 1804

Among these I mentioned the nonfulfilment of the demands on this Government which the Raja of Berar derived from the Treaty of Deogaum and assured him that the Raja's Vakeels took every opportunity of conveying to you his complaints and remonstrances on the occasion

A true extract

CHARLES RUSSELL

Seringapatam, 17th December 1801

SIR,

The late dispatches from Mr Elphinstone to His Excellency the Governor General, particularly one of the 27th of November in which he relates a conversation with Jeswant Rao Ramchander upon the subject of the claims of the Raja of Berar, on the Soubah's Government for the revenues of the perrunnahs under Gawaldhur, collected by His Highness's Officers, render it expedient that I should trouble you upon that subject.

There can be no doubt of the justice of the demand of the Raja of Berar, and it is unfortunate that at this moment he should have a just claim of this description, and still more from that one of the Company's Allies should evade or delay to satisfy him. I therefore most earnestly urge you to adopt such measures as you may think most likely to obtain speedy payment for the Raja and to communicate upon this subject with the Raja's Agent at the Soubah's Durbar, and to correspond with Mr Elphinstone regarding it in order that the Raja of Berar may know that the British Government not only is not concerned in this act of injustice, but that you have exerted yourself to remedy it.

Connected with this subject is the entirely defenceless state of the Province of Berar. It is strange that the Soubah's Government should be guilty of an act of injustice which at any other period would have occasioned an attack from the Raja of Berar and that he should not adopt common precautions for the security of that valuable territory.

You will observe that this state of want of defence has not exacted the observations of the Raja's ministers and that they expect that Meer Khan's Pindarries will make an irruption into the province.

The consequences will be fatal to the Soubah's Government. The least important will be the loss of the Revenue of Berar and of all the advantages required in the late war and I therefore request you to adopt such measures as you may think necessary to oblige the Soubah to provide for the defence of the part of his territories.

I have not received any accounts of the state of affairs on the Western frontier, to which you refer in your late dispatches to His Excellency the Governor-General during the last war. The banditte upon this same frontier increased in numbers because they were neglected and at last nothing but the British Troops could force them. The same causes will have the same effect this year, but it must not be forgot that the loss of the Soubah in the meantime is immense. I must also request that you would point out to the Soubah's Government that the British Troops cannot hold out against the constant exertions which they are obliged to make in this service, exertions rendered necessary not by the common course of events but by the faults and neglect of his own Government.

I have the honour to be,

With great Respect,

Sir,

Your most obedient and Faithful Servant,
ARTHUR WELLESLEY

TO—MAJOR GENERAL THE HON BLE A WILLESLEY
SERINGAPATAM

SIR

I received on the 26th instant your dispatch of the 17th from Seringapatam, and should have done myself the honour of replying to it sooner had not I been prevented for these two days past by somewhat severe indisposition

The exertions which I made by your express directions at this Court for the recovery of the Raja of Berar's demands upon this Government for the Revenues collected from the Pergunnahs under Gawilghur previous to your departure from the Deccan, were followed up by similar endeavours on my part subsequent to that period all of which however proved equally unsuccessful notwithstanding my latter negotiations on the subject were renewed at the express command of His Excellency the Governor General (then) name indeed I required immediate payment of the arrears in question but without effect from the Government, as my address to his Excellency (No 340) of the 14th October last in particular would no doubt have fully satisfied you had that despatch chanced to have come under your perusal during your stay in Calcutta

3rd In every stage of this transaction besides regularly reporting its progress to His Excellency the Governor General I did not fail to make the necessary communications to the Resident at Nagpore and to the Berar Raja's Vakeel at this Durbar and have repeatedly received from both of them in reply to their acknowledgements for my endeavours however fruitless on the occasion accompanied by an expression of their conviction that nothing had been left undone by me to obtain satisfaction on the foregoing point for the Raja Mr Elphinstone indeed in one of his dispatches to His Excellency reporting a conference which he had just (then) describes both the Raja and his ministers (on the authority of the latter) as perfectly satisfied also that I had exerted myself to the utmost in conformity to the Governor General's instructions to obtain for his Highness due

* * * *

7th Should my memorial fail of obtaining the required reimbursement which advertising to my past fruitless negotiations and to the recent irruption of the Berar Raja's Brother's Troops into the Nizam's territories cannot be considered as improbable the only step that remains to be taken which can be productive of the desired effect is to give this Government plainly to understand that the demand in question being founded on a treaty entered into between the British Government and the Raja of Berar, the British Government considers itself responsible for its liquidation and that in the event therefore of funds not being immediately produced by His Highness himself I shall be under the necessity of making the requisite deduction from the arrears of Sircar in my custody as the only means remaining of rescuing British Faith from unmerited imputation

8th This last step would of course be decisive and immediately either cause the production of the requisite sum from this Government or enable me by its continuing to withhold it to fulfil my declaration by paying to the Berar Raja's Vakeel here from the Sircar Peshwa's Funds the amount of his mother's demands, but as such a measure as is here suggested in the last resort has I believe no precedent I propose waiting for your reply to this reference before I proceed absolutely to its adoption

9th In the event of the above suggestion meeting with your approbation and sanction it will still remain for you to determine how far after the recent transaction at the Nagpur Durbar as reported in the Hon ble

Mr Elphinstone's latter despatches, it may still be advisable to make an immediate tender of the recovered arrears of Revenue, to the Berar Raja's Vakeel, or simply inform him for the present, that it is in my custody where it is to remain until I am honoured with your final determination

10th On the subject of the general defence of these territories, to which the latter part of your letter refers, my exertions with this Durbar, as the whole tenor of my public dispatches for a length of time past, will abundantly testify, have been equally unremitted and equally unsuccessful with those on the point above stated

11th Besides my vain endeavours to effect the completion of His Highness's immediate contingent, I have laboured for some months past with what degree of success the enclosed despatch will enable you to determine, to prevail on this Government, at the reputed instances of Colonel Close, to detach a Body of troops for the defence of its possessions in the Tooljapoor quarter, which are menaced by the same banditti, who ravaged them with impunity, during the late war until checked and dispersed by your own personal exertions

12th I shall not fail however in obedience to your directions to place in the strongest light, I can devise to this Government the imminent resque and heavy loss to which it exposes itself by the utterly defenceless state in (sic) which its territories in Berar are left, by its own improvidence, and the extreme and increasing hardship of the services which thereby fall to be performed by the British Troops

14th So great, however, and deeply rooted are the disorders of this Government and so inadequate are its present military establishment even to its own internal defence that I feel no hesitation in offering it as my opinion, that no solid advantage can be derived from this state as an ally in time of war, without either some such military reform as has been repeatedly hinted at as requisite by Meer Aulum, or by an increase to a considerable extent of the subsidiary force, which latter alternative appears to be most consonant with the wishes of His Excellency the Governor-General

J A KIRKPATRICK
29-12-1804

Translation through the medium of the Persian Language of a Mahatta letter from the Raja of Berar to Kesho Rao Ramchander, the Vakeel of the Raja at Hyderabad, communicated to Resident

January 12th, 1805

After compliments, I write to you that my younger brother Nana levied a body of troops, and dispatched them surreptitiously to the frontier of Berar I was not acquainted with the circumstance nor did I hear it There has excited a considerable disturbance in this quarter, and the Hon'ble Mr Elphinstone complained that new levies had been raised by me, and that such had been the conduct of the troops near the Wardha that Sakharam Oudhoot had also collected a party, and that he had therefore been convinced that I entertained hostile intentions towards the British Government That if such were really my intentions, I should give him his dismissal, for that he would not remain with me

With this affair I was unacquainted, for it was surreptitiously conducted To commence hostilities against the British Government never entered my contemplation When such was my real intention I acted in conformity to it What advantage did I then derive and what would I now derive from hostilities, while my army consisted of lacks and while I was

prepared in person I concluded a peace and the fruits of that peace will some day ripen and my interests be promoted. Such are my expectations but I now labor beneath a burden from an army of a few thousands and do I not reflect on this circumstance such is not my intention nor should Mr Elphinstone entertain any such

From the friendship which has been established and the engagements which have been concluded there should be no departure. The friendship should daily increase and the British Government will promote the improvement of my interests. Such is my desire. That friendship which has been established is firm and must be preserved in force. Mr Elphinstone ought not to cherish such suspicions.

When I heard that the troops had joined my brother Mr Elphinstone complained to me and I replied to him in the foregoing manner. I complied with all that he desired. I did whatever was necessary for his satisfaction and recalled the troops that were attached to my brother. This domestic transaction which was conducted without my knowledge was productive of very serious consequences. I gave Mr Elphinstone every assurance that was requisite but I much fear lest suspicion should still remain in the mind of the British Government.

Meer Khan approached near to Degwareree and Nago Seewajee appeared near Sagar and excited disturbances in the Mandel Country. Troops were therefore assembled and despatched for their chastisement. Raj Eyoru Narrain Rao Bujary Ghautkey who was at Mandla collected a party and repulsed Nago Seewajee, but much injury was sustained by the country. The troops which were detached by me towards that quarter did not arrive. The Pindarrah appeared on this side of the Nerbudda plundered Seonee Chaparah Sindcewara (Chhindwara) and other places and came to Gondwana.

The Nawab of Bhopal had before altered his conduct towards me as you may probably have heard. Troops were also detached towards his country but on the appearance of the Pindarrah the troops which had been detached from Nagpore joined under Sakharam Oudhoot who had retired from the Army to Nagpore and to whom I had given his dismissal.

Such being the conduct of the Pindarrah the Nawab of Bhopal Meer Khan and Nago Seewajee to repulse them and to protect the country became indispensable. But the troops of my brother having marched without my knowledge towards the Wardha the British Government was induced to remonstrate against all the other parties.

The Honble Mr Elphinstone suggested several plans with respect to my brother such as dispersing his party and sending for the troops in consequence of which I did what was required.

On the subject of the troops which were with Sakharam Oudhoot Mr Elphinstone observed that their assemblage at one place was not proper and that they ought to be divided into two bodies. With this I complied. Mr Elphinstone desired that Sakharam's artillery should be recalled to Nagpore which was accordingly done and I dismissed such troops as he required. I confiscated the fallock of my brother and sent there my own aumils. This misfortune has been unnecessarily produced. What can be done. I have adopted whatever was proper in order that Mr Elphinstone may be satisfied and I will persevere in that line of conduct.

Colonel Kirkpatrick is at Hyderabad and maintains with you a friendly intercourse. I have communicated to you the circumstance that occurred without my knowledge in order that you may be able to explain it and have entered into a minute detail for it is desirable that you should be informed on such subjects. A frequent intercourse subsists between you and Colonel Kirkpatrick, and if he should speak to you on the foregoing subject you will make to him a particular communication and will endeavour to satisfy him.

Two forts and a country producing four lacks of rupees were acquired by me. I wrote to the Talookdars in that quarter that if a British Army and the troops of His Highness the Soobahdar, should advance in that direction, they should refrain from disputes and not regard the troops in an hostile light. That the troops would do what they pleased, that they had given me the forts and country, that this should be recollected, and that the Talookdars should consider that country as the seat of friendship.

I have recalled the troops of my brother, who marched towards the Wardha, and have established a Dawk in that direction. They will soon arrive. There are no thoughts here of difference. I have done what was necessary to satisfy Mr Elphinstone and have prevented his departure. If after this he should propose to retire, such is my intention and I entertain none other. I am unable to make war, why therefore should I hesitate between staying and departure.

Be it known to you

Dated the 19th of Ramzam A N 1219

Translation through the medium of the Persian language of an extract from a Mahrattah letter addressed by the Raja of Bejar to Keysho Rao Ramchander, the Vakeel of the Rajah at Hyderabad. Communicated to the Resident, January 12th

After the conclusion of the Treaty the officers of his Highness the Soobahdar made collection in the districts annexed to Gawilghur and Hon'ble Mr Elphinstone sent an account of them to Colonel Kirkpatrick. The amount has been required from Meer Allum and you transmitted to me copy of the statements that Colonel Kirkpatrick communicated to the Meer. I have received them. Doubts have been recently excited in the mind of Mr Elphinstone. You must not require payment.

True translation

H RUSSEL,
Secretary to the Resident

Extract from an address No 349 from Lieut Colonel J A Kirkpatrick to His Excellency the Most Noble the Governor-General, dated the 13th January 1805

Paragraph 7—

The enclosure No 3 contains copy and translation of a letter which I addressed on the 31st ultimo, in consequence of a previous letter, which I received from the Hon'ble Major General Wellesley copy of which and of my reply to the same were duly transmitted to the Secretary in the Political Department.

Paragraph 8—

The Minister in his reply copy and translation of which form enclosure No 4 gives flattering assurances of a ready compliance with the two points recommended for immediate fulfilment by my letter to him and the

draft of the Inayatnamah to the Officers of Government in Berar which was sent for my perusal sufficiently accords with the description given of it in the Minister's note

Paragraph 9—

From the Minister's Note No 5 copy and translation of which are also enclosed for your Excellency's notice your Excellency will collect that the Raja of Berar himself declines for the present at least receiving payment of the money in question as has this day indeed been confirmed to me by the Raja's Vakeel who sent the original letter from his Master on the subject for my perusal

Paragraph 10—

Under the above circumstances My Lord I propose referring the case as it now stands with the requisite documents to the Honble Major General Wellesley and the Resident at Nagpore and confining myself to intimate to Meer Alum in the interim that the balance still due on account of Gawilghur to the Raja should be so adjusted as to be forthcoming without the least further hesitation or delay in the probable event of payment being still deemed requisite

A true extract

CHARLES RUSSELL

Translation of a letter from Lieut Colonel Kirkpatrick Resident at Hyderabad to Meer Alum dated December 31st 1804

In compliance with the orders of the Honble Major General Wellesley who was invested by His Excellency the Most Noble the Governor General in Council the control of all the Political and Military affairs of the British Government in the Deccan and subsequently in obedience to the express commands of the Governor General I have already repeatedly informed you both verbally and in writing the subject of the demands which the Raja of Berar derives from the Treaty of Deogaon on His Highness the Soubahdar for the amount of the collections by the Officers of His Highness in the districts annexed to Gawilghur

That question however still remains unadjusted and the Honble Major General Wellesley having lately arrived at Seringapatam and having perceived by various letters that the just demands of the Raja of Berar is not yet satisfied has written to me in terms of great astonishment and regret, directing me unreservedly to remind His Highness and you Sir of the peculiar nature of this delicate and important point which is connected with the Treaty and in the adjustment of which any further delay must be attended with various evil consequences and to effect an immediate settlement of the question.

The Honble Major General Wellesley has also instructed me to request the immediate collection of an adequate force in the Soubah of Berar to protect it from the attacks and incursions of the enemy

In compliance with the instructions I beg leave to observe that by the blessing of Providence you are renowned for wisdom for (torn) and to express a hope that you will be induced by foresight and by an attention to equity to pay into my hands or directly to the Vakeel of the Raja of Berar the sum which from a just computation may appear due to the Raja on account of the collections made in the districts annexed to Gawilghur and that you will (torn) terminate this delicate and important business I also trust that you will immediately cause such a party the recent or former

levies to be established in Berar as may appear to its protection, in order that in the hour of need no loss may be sustained by His Highness in consequence of the defenceless state of Berar

Although the delicacy and importance of the foregoing points required that I should obtain an audience of His Highness and that I should fully represent to him the necessity of their adjustment and the evil consequences of delay, I have been indeed in consequence of His Highness's indisposition to relinquish that intention to address you in a letter

In proof of your attachment to the interests of His Highness you will submit the foregoing questions to His Highness and effect their speedy adjustment

A true translation

HENRY RUSSELL,
Secretary

*Translation of a letter from Meer Aulum to Lieut Colonel Kirkpatrick,
Resident at Hyderabad*

Received, January 10th, 1805

I had the honour to receive your letter on the subject of repaying the ministers of Raja Ragojee Bhonsla the excess of the collections which were made by the officers of His Highness the Soubahdar, in the districts annexed to Gawilghur and of detaching into the Soubah of Berar a party of the new or former Levies to defend it against the interruptions of Marauders

In compliance with your suggestion Rai Keysho Rao, the Vakeel of the Raja Ragojee Bhonsla, has been repeatedly confronted with the Mootusoodies of this Government the sum of forty-nine thousand rupees was yesterday paid to Keysho Rao and when the accounts shall have been compared the balance shall be paid to that to which it may appear to be due This arrangement has been explained to Keysho Rao who will himself communicate it to you

For the defence of the Soubah of Berar Enayatnamahs and orders according to the draft which was submitted to your perusal, were immediately dispatched, directing that an adequate number of cavalry and infantry, should be levied for the protection of the country and the repulsion of the marauders and authorising their payment from the revenues collected in Berar

A true translation

H RUSSEL,
Secretary to Resident

*Translation of a letter from Meer Aulum to Lieut Colonel Kirkpatrick,
Resident at Hyderabad*

Received, January 11th, 1805

This morning I had the honour to communicate to you the arrangement that had been made respecting the demand of the Raja of Berar A letter has just now been received from the Raja directing his Vakeel, not to receive at Hyderabad the sum that is due to him on account of the districts annexed to Gawilghur.

I have written this letter for your information but the Vakeel of the Raja will make to you a verbal communication of this and other circumstances

A true translation

H RUSSEL
Secretary

Seeringapatain, January 4th 1805

SIR

I have had the honour of receiving your letter of the 21st December and your dispatch to the Governor-General No 347

I observe that the Minister has required that you should afford him some support with His Highness the Soubah in order that he may be enabled to carry into execution the measures which are necessary for the protection of the territories of His Highness against the marauders who have taken advantage of the employment of the Company's troops in operation against Jeswant Rao Holkar to commit depredations in His Highness's territories. As long as Meer Alum is the Minister and particularly considering that he was appointed to that situation by the operation of the influence of the British Government there can be no doubt of the propriety and indeed necessity of supporting him to enable him to carry into execution the measures which are necessary to provide for the defence of His Highness's territories

You will observe from my former correspondence with you that I am of opinion that the only mode by which the Army of the Soubah can be made efficient is to take into the Soubah's immediate pay a body of Silladar Horse

Meer Alum appears to be of the same opinion but he proposes to provide for the expense of the levies of Silladar Horse by a confiscation of the Jagheers of those Jagheerdars who have rendered this measure necessary by a deficiency of their quotas of troops

The Governor General has positively disapproved of the measure of receiving the Jagheers of their Chiefs in a letter to you dated the 11th. I have to observe that it will be harsh and unjust at the present moment as the late famine in the Deccan has increased the expense of maintaining troops times its former amount and of course the Jagheerdars must be unable to afford to keep up the numbers for the support of which in ordinary times lands are allotted to them

But supposing the measure to be wise and just and permitted by the orders of His Excellency the Governor General the first step towards carrying it into execution must be to collect and pay a force of another description for the Jagheerdars in the present state of the Soubah's Government will not tamely resign their Jagheers, and I conclude that the British Troops are not to be employed to force them. The suggestion of Meer Alum therefore upon this subject is impracticable, will produce no resource for the payment of the new troops and will occasion discontent and very probably the rebellion of a powerful and respectable class of His Highness's subjects and servants

My opinion upon this subject has long been decided. The only mode of restoring strength and efficiency to the Soubah's Government for its own internal purposes and to make an useful alliance to the Company is

to oblige the Soubah to have in his own pay a body of Silladar Horse besides his regular Infantry The revenues of Berar and the improvement of his situation in that province if well managed, would have covered the expense of this body of troops

The Government might then bring into order the Jagheerdars without the risk of rebellion and by reducing their Jagheers to a moderate size and by the power which they would have of controlling the Amils, and of obliging them to pay to the state, the revenues of the country as they become due, they would soon gain a sum far greater than that which might be expected in the support of the troops Besides this advantage the country could be in tranquillity, employment would be given to the numerous idle Horsemen who are in all parts of it and are ready to join the standard of any plunderer and the Soubah's Government would be useful Ally to the Company instead of a burden

ARTHUR WELLESLEY

Seringapatam, 8th January 1805

SIR,

I have had the honour of receiving your letter of the 29th December I was convinced that you would do everything in your power to induce the Soobah of the Deccan to perform the Treaty of Peace with the Raja of Berar, and if I had seen your dispatch No 340 to His Excellency the Governor-General I should not have had occasion to trouble you

It is my opinion that nothing has occurred lately at Nagpur which should prevent the Soobah of the Deccan from paying the Raja the sum of money which is due to him or the British Government from urging His Highness to pay it and from adopting every measure which can be devised to induce him to do this act of justice

This being the case it is my opinion that if the Soobah of the Deccan should not immediately place at your disposal or at the disposal of the Raja's Vakeels the funds required to discharge this demand, you ought to carry into execution the proposition contained in the 7th and 8th paragraphs of your letter of the 29th December and inform the Soobah of the Deccan that you will apply to the discharge of the Raja's demand the sums in your hands due to His Highness the Paishwah

In whatever mode the money may be procured, I think that it ought to be paid to the Raja without further loss of time and without reference to other transactions, respecting which I have considerable doubts

In my last letter of the 4th instant I entered into a consideration of the Increase and Reform of the Soobah's Military establishment and it is unnecessary that I should trouble you further upon the subject at present excepting to inform you that I have reason to believe that the sentiments delivered in that letter are exactly conformable to those of His Excellency the Governor-General

I beg leave to refer you to a letter which I wrote to you on the 10th of January 1804 for the details of my opinions upon this subject

I have the honour to be,

etc , etc ,

A WELLESLEY

To,

Lieut -Colonel J A KIRKPATRICK,

Resident at Hyderabad

Letter No 2 —In this letter Elphinstone describes the unfriendly disposition and acts of Raja Mahipat Ram Nizam's Agent in Berar, in withholding the possession of certain Jagirs promised to the Ministers of Raghoji by Major General Wellesley at the time of the Treaty of Deogaon

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE RESIDENT AT NAGPUR,

TO—COLONEL BLOUSE RESIDENT AT POONA

Nagpur, 28th January 1805

I take the opportunity of your presence in the subsidiary force to inform you of the following instances of improper conduct in Raja Maheput Ram which may probably be redressed by your interposition

2. You are probably informed that the four pergunnas which the Bhonsla was allowed to retain in Berar remained in the possession of Raja Maheput Ram for some months after the peace and that the revenue then collected by him has never been accounted for to the Raja of Berar. This delay however was not more owing to Maheput Ram than to his Government and there is at present a prospect of the affair being adjusted at Hyderabad. I only mention it because it is alluded to in course of a correspondence to which I shall have occasion to refer

3. The time of the peace of Deogaon the Honble Major General Wellesley was pleased to confirm some of the Raja's ministers in the possession of certain lands and villages in Berar and to grant new Jageers to some of them all which he did in virtue of full powers from His Highness the Soobah of the Deccan and great delay having been made by Maheput Ram in delivering over those villages the General was pleased to direct that all the revenue collected from them since the peace should be paid to the persons who hold them under the above mentioned grants and these orders were afterwards repeated and confirmed by His Excellency the Most Noble the Governor General. In consequence of the authority above referred to I have repeatedly assured the Raja's ministers that they shall not only obtain quiet possession of the villages granted to them by the Honble Major General Wellesley but receive complete indemnification for the revenue lost to them since the date of these grants by the irregularities of the Nizam's Officers. I have frequently written on the subject to Raja Maheput Ram and at one time the whole or the greater part of the villages had been made over to the right owners though the arrears of revenue had not been paid. Things did not remain long in this state before Maheput Ram issued orders to Raja Ganga Ram to sequester the villages belonging to the Bhonsla's ministers. Raja Ganga Ram having very considerably acquainted me with his instructions I requested him to defer the executions of them and wrote to Maheput Ram requesting recall of an order which was so contrary to General Wellesley's promises. This only produced a letter to Ganga Ram directly to proceed to confiscate the villages without delay. Raja Ganga Ram informed me of these directions and expressed his regret that he was prevented by the express orders of his superior from complying with my suggestions and general Wellesley's commands. On this I wrote again to Maheput Ram. I have the honour to enclose his answer expressing his surprise at being blamed for a transaction of which he never heard and representing Jeswant Rao's account as malicious and calumnious.

It is not easy to conceive what should induce Jeswant Rao to bring forward his complaint if it is unfounded or why Raja Ganga Ram should confine his statements but as you are on the spot and as Maheput Ram is

in Camp where Jeswant Rao has also been an agent I hope you will be able to discover whether Mahipat Ram's account or Jeswant Rao's is true and I have accordingly referred the former to you in my answer which I have the honour to enclose

4 Soon after my arrival in the Bhonsla's Camp I received an application from him for a Cowle or protection [to be] granted by General Wellesley to Vincagee Pidree a respectable banker who wished to establish a house in Berar. The Cowle was accordingly granted by General Wellesley notwithstanding which Pidree informs me that Maheeput Ram has seized his Agent at Amraoti and is extorting money from him without any other pretence than what is founded on a forged bond from Pidree's grandfather to Sabbagee Bhonsla one of the former Raja's of Berar. If this account should prove true I beg leave to request that you will require Maheeput Ram to respect General Wellesley's Cowle

5 I sometime ago received a letter from the Raja Gangaram of which I have the honour to enclose a copy informing me that Maheeput Ram had ordered him (if I agree) to make reprisals on the Bhonsla's four pergunnahs in Berar for the damage done by the party who plundered Vainecotta conceiving that Maheeput Ram was in this case assuming an authority which the Soobah of the Deccan could not consistently with the tenor of his engagements to the British Government have vested in him and being convinced that such a measure could not but have the worst effects considering the defenceless state of Berar at the time I wrote to recommend his waiting the orders of His Excellency the Governor-General and succeeded in persuading him to drop his design and to restore 10,000 rupees which had been levied on Argong by a Chief and on his orders I have the honour to enclose the letters in question together with letters received yesterday from Raja Maheeput Ram which leads me to think that he has renewed his intention of attacking the Berar Raja. I have informed him in the letter of which a copy is enclosed that his taking any step of the sort will be contrary to treaty and will certainly be disapproved by His Excellency the Governor-General and that he must look for no support or assistance from the British in the war which his projected retaliation may possibly involve

I beg leave to request that you will take such steps as you may think most proper to procure the adjustments of the above affairs and to induce Maheeput Ram to behave in future with greater moderation towards the Raja and in a manner more consistent with the relations which subsist between his Government and the British. I have the honour to be with great respect Sir, your most obedient humble servant

Letter No 3 —The writer refers to a dispute between the Nizam and the Bhonsla over the transfer of certain villages in the districts east of the Wardha.

FROM—T SYDENHAM, RESIDENT AT HYDERABAD,

TO—M ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

Hyderabad, 18th January 1806

I have had a tedious contest with the Soubahdar to prevail upon him to cede to the Raja of Berar his share to certain districts east of the Wardha

I find that there are positive and insurmountable objections to a small part of the proposed cession. I have not yet been able to procure a detailed statement of the places which this Government is so averse from ceding but I am told that their annual value does not amount to more than

Letter No 2 —In this letter Elphinstone describes the unfriendly disposition and acts of Raja Mahapat Ram Nizam's Agent in Berar, in withholding the possession of certain Jagirs promised to the Ministers of Raghoji by Major General Wellesley at the time of the Treaty of Deogaon

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I beg leave to request that you will take such steps as you may think most proper to procure the adjustments of the above affairs and to induce Maheeput Ram to behave in future with greater moderation towards the Raja and in a manner more consistent with the relations which subsist between his Government and the British. I have the honour to be with great respect Sir, your most obedient humble servant

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I find that there are positive and insurmountable objections to a small part of the proposed cession. I have not yet been able to procure a detailed statement of the places which this Government is so averse from

Rs 10 000 They consist of some villages near the hills to which the Government attaches great importance from their situation near the frontier of some villages belonging to the pergunnah of Ashti to the west of the Wardha and very near Ellichpore and to the mud fort of Annair on the Wardha

I also am given to understand that the only mode the Soubahdar will agree to in the disposal of the required districts is by a Jagheer to the son of the Raja of Berar I was assured that the grant could be as valid and permanent as any other and as the Company's name will be mentioned in the sunnud we shall be a guarantee to the transfer

I beg you will favour me with your opinion on this subject and whether you think the move suggested by this Government will be agreeable to your Court I am only afraid that whatever the Berar Government thinks of the mode, the Soubahdar will not be prevailed upon to relinquish it and that if I do not accept of the transfer on these terms I shall not obtain it at all I send you a statement of all the districts from the Hyderabad Dafters and I request you will do me the kindness to communicate your notions on the subject as soon as you have sounded your Court.

Letter No 4 —At long last the amount due to the Bhonsla on account of the revenue collections from the four pergunahs of Gawilgarh by the Nizam's officers was paid to the Bhonsla through the British intervention

FROM—J A KIRKPATRICK RESIDENT AT HYDERABAD

TO—M FLPHINSTONE RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

Hyderabad 28th February 1806

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 16th instant, enclosing a detailed account of Revenue collected by the Nizam's Officers in the four pergunnahs attached to Gawilghur

This account appearing (as far as I am able to judge) perfectly correct and it being only conformable (as you justly observe) to my instructions from His Excellency the Governor General to consider the Raja of Berar as entitled to the whole net Revenue of the Purgunnahs in question without any deduction whatever I shall be prepared to answer your drafts to the full amount specified in your statement whenever they may be presented either by receiving the sum due from this Government which now seems disposed to discharge it, or by making the requisite deductions if absolutely necessary from the Paishkash Funds in my custody agreeably to the latitude entrusted to me by Sir Arthur Wellesley for the purposes

Letter No 5 —Intimating the payment of the revenue from the four parganahs of Gawilgarh realized by the Nizam's Agents

FROM—COLONEL KIRKPATRICK RESIDENT AT HYDFRA
BAD

TO—COLONEL B CLOSE RESIDENT AT POONA

Hyderabad, 5th April 1805

I am favoured with your letter of the 27th ultimo advising me of your having this day drawn on me at fifteen days sight for the sum of two lacks thirty thousand three hundred and fifty one Hyderabad Sicca rupees twelve annas exchange for one lack and eighty eight thousand three hundred and sixty six Nagpur rupees twelve annas in favour of Vincobah Pedidy

The above draft I shall be duly prepared to answer, though I think it is to be apprehended that this Government notwithstanding the explanation I may have to offer, will feel considerable reluctance in discharging the very heavy difference that exists between the actual sum due to the Nagpur Government on account of the arrears of Gawilghur revenue and that for which, I shall now have to call upon it in consequence of the unfavourable rate of exchange at which the bill has been negotiated

DIPLOMATIC NEGOTIATIONS

Letter No 1—In this letter Colebrooke is desired to procure permission of Bhonsla Raghojee II for the passage of British troops through his dominions going from the Vizier's territories to join the Army of Fort St George. They were taking a direct route from Kalpi, through Bundelkhund Berar and Hyderabad.

FROM—G H BARLOW SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT
TO—H COLEBROOK RESIDENT AT NAGPUR.

Fort William, 8th February 1799

I am directed by the Honourable the Vice President in Council to acquaint you that at the desire of the Right Honourable the Governor General in Council, it is intended to send a Detachment consisting of about 4 or 5000 Native Infantry with some artillery from the Vizier's Territories to join the army of Fort St George

2 It is proposed with a view to expedition and to render the march as little fatiguing as possible to the Troops that the Detachment shall take a direct route from Colpee through Bundelkhund Berar and Hyderabad

3 The Vice President in Council desires that you will communicate the wish of the Right Honourable the Governor General to march the Troops by the above mentioned route to Ragoojee Bhoosla

4 You will at the same time express to him the Vice President's conviction that from the intimate connection which subsists between the two states he will readily acquiesce to the Governor General's wish and that he will depute a respectable person to attend the Commanding Officer of the Detachment through the limits of his territory, and to assist in providing supplies for the Troops for which payment will be regularly made

5 You will also give to Ragoojee Bhoosla the most positive assurances that the greatest care will be taken that the Inhabitants of the country through which the troops may pass shall not experience any molestation

6 You will be hereafter apprized of the period when the Detachment may be expected to commence its march

7 The Resident with Scindia has been desired to apply to Ali Bahader and to the Maratta Officer in charge of Colpee and the adjacent country to facilitate the progress of the troops through their territories

Letter No 2—The necessary permission for the passage of the British troops through his dominion is conceded by Raghojee. The importance of this step at the time of the fourth Mysore war cannot be exaggerated

FROM—H COLEROOKE RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

TO—G H BARLOW ESQUIRE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

Nagpur 25th March 1799

On the 18th instant I had the pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 8th ultimo On the 23rd instant the earliest day on which any business could be opened I had a private conference with the Raja the result of which I have reported to the Governor General and I beg leave

to refer the acting President in Council for particulars to the enclosed copy of my despatches. This morning I again saw the Raja by appointment and have the pleasure to inform you, that he readily consents to the passage of troops through his territories and he desired me to give him timely notice of the arrival of the Detachment at Calpee, that he may send a proper person to meet the Commanding Officer on the frontiers of Berar.

Letter No. 3.—Colebrooke suggests in his interview the formation of a treaty of quadruple alliance between the Company and Peshwa, the Nizam and the Bhonsla whereas the Bhonsla expresses his desire for a Treaty between him and the Company only.

FROM—H COLEBROOKE, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR,

TO—THE RIGHT HON'BLE EARL OF MORNINGTON,
GOVERNOR GENERAL

Nagpur, 26th March 1799.

I had yesterday a private conference with Raghojee Bhonsla. at which his Dewan, Moonshee and Chitnavis were present, and I beg leave to report the particulars of it from minutes taken immediately after my return from the Durbar.

At this, as at the preceding interview, the conversation was for the most carried on through the medium of the Moonshee, who spoke to me in Persian and to the Rajah in the Marhatta tongue. The Rajah seems unwilling to speak Hindustani, with which he is not very conversant, and he himself desired me to use the Persian language.

After some consultation with the Ministers the Moonshee opened the conference by saying your Lordship had intimated that some particular, not trusted to epistolary correspondence, would be explained by my verbal communications, and the Raja was therefore solicitous to hear what I had in charge to communicate. In reply I observed that he had announced the wish of disclosing his sentiments on some important subjects which occupied his mind and in consequence thereof and assured him of your Lordship's friendly sentiments. I attended his court but if more agreeable to him, I would have asked the previous explanation of his sentiments. After a short consultation the Raja told me the Moonshee should deliver what had been the object of his (Raghojee's) requesting my mission. Shridher Pandit accordingly proceeded to state, that when the Raja wrote the letter alluded to the Peshwa as well as Nizam had been called upon by the British Government to prepare for reciprocal defence against the hostile designs of Tippoo Sultan but no intimation had been given to the Raja although as an ancient and faithful friend he took so great an interest in what concerned the Company. On the subject of this pretended slight he enlarged but not so as to lead me to believe, that it had been really felt as such but rather, that he wished to become a party to the alliance against Tippoo. I offered immediately to reply, but he proposed first to complete the explanation of the objects of the Raja's letter of April last.

He then proceeded to say, that the distracted state of affairs at Poona had engaged Nizam's and the Raja's attention at a distance and on the spot. That ultimately Bajee Row was raised to the Peshwaship and the Ragojee had acquiesced therein but after his return from Poona had been imprisoned and affairs had become more confused than ever. It had therefore seemed expedient, then the Raja wrote to concert such measures as the circumstances of the times called for. There were, he said the two points which gave occasion to the letter above mentioned, and the whole of what the Raja had directed him to communicate,

I replied that there had not been the smallest grounds for thinking him self slighted that measures such as he had stated had not been taken at the time he mentioned This the Raja would perceive on referring to your Lordship's declaration That, mean time it had been determined to depnte me to his Court which had rendered the communication of intelligence through another channel unnecessary and that what I might probably have had your orders to inform him of verbally had I arrived earlier was superseded by the turn affairs had now taken, of which the earliest notice had been given to him by your Lordship's letter delivered to him at the last interview

Under the impression I have received of the real drift of what had been said I judged this to be a better opportunity than I had even expected penning a negotiation as commanded by your Lordship I therefore added that so far from making a secret to him of measures taken to defeat the designs of Tippoo your Lordship considered him as a party to the existing defensive alliance with the Peshwa in which he as a Marhatta State was included That since the enemies of the allied states had shown their hostile disposition it seemed advisable for the common defence to defend by a Treaty of quadruple alliance on the basis of the triple one His engagements as a party virtually included in the existing Treaty with the Peshwa and the Nizam

On the other topic of the Moonshree's discourse I endeavoured to give the most guarded answer by saying that your Lordship would no doubt always see with regret any distraction in the affairs of Poona and would certainly have great pleasure in securing Bajee Row's full enjoyment of his power and authority

The Moonshree by the Raja's directions told me in reply that the proposition I had hinted of a Treaty between the two states was highly gratifying to the Raja and the very thing he most wished, that after the conclusion of it during the negotiation would be the best time to consider and discuss other matters that this conference having advanced so far he would propose two or three other meetings on the subject thus opened and at which every thing might be discussed and adjusted In the course of his reply the Moonshree seemed to disclaim the Raja's being virtually a party to the existing Treaty or any otherwise engaged to us than as an ancient and sincere friend

Apprehending inconvenience in the progress of the negotiation from an apparent misapprehension which struck me in the term used by the Moonshree between the two states I asked him whether he had expressed to the Raja this term I had employed a Treaty of quadruple alliance He said he had not and asked what occasion there could be to make four states parties to a new Treaty of Alliance with two of them and which very Treaty I named as the basis of the new one In reply I repeated what I had already said respecting the Raja's virtual engagements and added that a separate Treaty would constitute an alliance with the British Government only instead of being with all the allies and to obviate an answer he seemed prepared to make I further said that it might perhaps be deemed uncandid to make a separate Treaty unknown to or exclusive of the other Allies He asked me whether it was indispensably necessary to make both the other states acquainted with and parties to the Treaty I answered that whether it were known to the Peshwa immediately or not, it would I supposed be proper to comprehend him and this might be done by concerning the Treaty with the Nizam and allowing the Peshwa the option of acceding to it when he judged proper I added that I mentioned this merely by way of explanation not for the purpose of inducing a present discussion when the Raja had already deferred the further consideration of the subject to a future conference. Sridber Pundit explained this

to the Raja, who acquiesced but his countenance indicated that he would have been better pleased with the negotiation of a separate Treaty and that he felt some disappointment in my having proposed a joint one

I could have wished to have obtained more full disclosure of the Raja's sentiments before I added anything to what I first said but the misapprehension arising from the Moonsee's suppression of a single term rendered an explanation necessary and it seemed the more strangely so as the Raja's motives for wishing a separate rather than a joint Treaty may possibly be incompatible with his duties to the Peshwa His unwillingness to acknowledge himself bound by the existing engagements of the Peshwa the terms used in making the acknowledgments of such an obligation, that which was employed in speaking of Bajee Row's elevation, joined to the hint I received from Bissumber Pundit and which I had the honour to mention to your Lordship, all co-operated with the impression of your Lordship's particular injunctions on my mind to make me under necessity of being so far explicit with the view of discouraging in the earliest state of the business any sentiments the Raja may have entertained inconsistent with his duty to the Peshwa

I beg leave to inform you that the Raja has given the consent required unfounded in making any exception, the Raja's disposition, as well as his interests, are such as your Lordship wishes them to be I cannot however yet hazard a decided opinion on his secret nor even on his strength and resources

I beg leave to inform you that the Raja has given the consent required of him, for the march of troops through Berar

Letter No 4—In this letter the Governor-General directs Colebrooke to arrange with the Court of Nagpur in concert with Hyderabad "as speedily as possible a Treaty of Defensive alliance between the Company, the Nizam and the Raja of Berar and their successors expressly framed to counteract the hostile project of Dowlat Rao Sindiah".

FROM—THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL,

TO—H COLEBROOKE, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

Fort St George, 25th April 1799

1 I have received your letter of the dates noted in the margin

2 Although the communication hitherto made to you by the Court of Nagpore do not completely disclose its views or indicate its disposition yet they furnish combined with other circumstances reasonable ground to hope that you will not experience much difficulty in accomplishing the object of my present instructions

3 You will herewith receive copies of two letters and enclosures lately received from the Resident at Poona and dated the 8th and 12th of April You will also receive a copy of a letter to me from the Resident at Hyderabad dated the 17th instant

4 The proofs furnished by these papers of the hostile design of Sindia's against the Nizam in the first instance and ultimately against the Company demands the adoption of immediate measures for repelling any attempt which Sindia may make upon the Nizam's territories

5 With this view I direct that you arrange with the Court of Nagpore in concert with that of Hyderabad as speedily as possible a Treaty of Defensive Alliance between the Company, Nizam and the Raja of Berar and their successors expressly framed to counteract the hostile project of Dowlat Rao Sindiah.

6 The sole object of the treaty must be the mutual defence of the territories of the contracting powers against any attack from Dowlat Rao Sindiah. But care must be taken to provide that the attack of any part of the territories of the Nawabs of Aude by Dowlat Rao Sindia shall be considered as an attack upon the Company's possession.

7 With respect to the partition of eventual conquests from Dowlat Rao Sindia in any rupture between him and the contracting powers this and other details cannot perhaps be better adjusted than upon the principles of the Treaties of Pounoul and Poona.

8 An article must be inserted in the Treaty for the purpose of enabling the Peshwas to accede to the alliance within a period of one month from the date of his being invited to do so by the British Government.

9 The Resident at Hyderabad will receive directions from me to communicate with the Nizam on the subject of the present instructions and to transmit to you with all practicable despatch the result of the deliberation of the Court of Hyderabad on the occasion.

10 You will observe that the absence of the greatest and most efficient part of Nizam Ali Khawn's forces in Mysore joined to the inability of the Company in the present conjuncture to afford him any prompt assistance in Troops leaves His Highness's territories considerably exposed to the attempts of Sindia. It is therefore extremely desirable and it must be an early object of your care to engage the Raja of Berar to place his Army without delay in such position as may best enable him in the event of hostilities with Sindia to afford to Nizam Ali Cawn the most speedy and effectual aid either by a junction by the Nizam Ali Cawn's forces or by a powerful diversion on the side of Sindiah's possessions in Malwa.

Letter No 5—In this letter Colebrooke intimates Raghojee's willingness to form a defensive alliance with the Nizam and the Company against Tipoo. Colebrooke, it must be remembered had been sent to Nagpur with the sole object of inducing the Raja to join the allies against Tipu during the fourth Mysore War.

FROM—H COLEBROOKE RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

TO—THE RIGHT HONBLE EARL OF MORNINGTON GOVERNOR GENERAL

Nagpur 26th April 1799

On the 20th instant I sent a message to remind the Raja that a long time had lapsed since our last conference he prevented the delivery of the message by himself appointing the next morning for an interview apologising at the same time for the delay which had occurred. I waited on him accordingly and he opened the conference by fully acceding to the proposal of a Treaty of alliance which he said was highly proper and acceptable since it would confirm and stress then the bonds of friendship and would not only be satisfactory to the Nizam and the Peshwa but would also increase the existing friendship with those powers. The Moonshie then proceeded to ask in the Raja's name a fuller explanation of the form in which I proposed that the Treaty should be formed. I stated in reply that it would contain a reciprocal guarantee of the possessions of the contracting parties including the rights of their allies so that in case of aggression by an enemy of the allied states they would all co-operate to repel the enemy.

2 The Raja acquiesced therein and after many apologies for introducing the subject said that the territories of the Company Nizam and Peshwa bordered on those of Tippoo that his did not that the allied states had partaken of the distresses and hazards of a war in which they

were all immediately interested and they had participated in the fruits of victory. If then in consequence of the alliance now agreed on he should share the afflictions he ought also to participate in the benefits of the war. That he did not state this as an excuse or as objection for he was at all events ready to enter into the proposed alliance.

3. I replied that although he was less immediately exposed to the hostile attempts of Tippoo yet he had an ultimate interest in the common defence against an ambitious foe and that my proposal having been confined to a defensive alliance there seemed no occasion to consider a subject which belonged to a Treaty of offensive alliance. He replied that as defensive engagements might sooner or later involve him in a war it was desirable to provide now for so probable a contingency. He proposed to me therefore to consider the subject at my leisure and to report it to your Lordship and wait your order. I intimated that I should report what had been now said to your Lordship. He then desired that to prevent mistakes, I would communicate to him what I might state as the substance of his discourse. I proposed that he should rather give me a written note of it and I would in compliance with a wish he had before intimated to me, deliver a similar note of the proposal I made at the former conference. This was agreed to and accordingly I next day sent the unsigned note, a translation which is enclosed. The Raja appointed an interview for the following day but the death of a relation obliged him to postpone it and he this morning sent his ministers who delivered to me a note recapitulating the communication which passed at the last conference. I enclose (No. 2) a translation of so much of it as the proposition made by the Raja.

4. In the course of the conversation of this day's meeting the ministers confirmed to me that the Raja accedes without reservation to the proposal of a defensive alliance and offers moreover to take an immediate part in the offensive operations against Tippoo but submits to your Lordship's consideration the question of his participation in subsequent conquests. I can perceive in the conversation both of the Raja and of his ministers great eagerness and solicitude which if permanent would fully meet your Lordship's wishes should you in the event of the war being protracted to a second campaign think it advisable to call for the Raja's co-operation.

He has desired that the negotiation may not be made known to the Courts of Poona and Hyderabad in its present state, shall inform Captain Kirkpatrick how he would wish it to be represented until your Lordship's pleasure be known.

Letter No. 6.—Discussions with Raghoji for a defensive alliance between the Bhonsla, the Nizam and the Company against Dowlat Rao Sindiah are reported. Raghoji clearly hesitates to give any assurance for such an alliance without reference to the Peshwa. It may be incidentally noted that the Governor-General's despatch, dated 25th April from Fort St George reached Nagpur on the 14th May.

FROM—H. COLEBROOKE, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR,
TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL

Nagpur, 25th May 1799

I have had the honour to acknowledge your instructions of the 25th ultimo received on the evening of the 14th instant. For the reasons mentioned in my address of the 16th I did not demand a private audience of

Raja Raghojee Bhonsla until the 20th on which date I had the satisfaction to receive copies of your Lordship's instructions to Captain Kirkpatrick and information from him of the result of his deliberations with the Court of Hyderabad all which prove to have been as necessary for my guidance as I expected to find them. I immediately sent a message to the Raja requesting a private audience and met him that day by appointment and again the following evening. His Dewan Moonshee and Chitnavis and my own Moonshee were the only persons present besides the Raja's son who both days came in towards the close of a very long sitting.

2. The first day I opened the conference by saying that it was incumbent on states connected by friendship with Nizam Ali Khan to concert measures for the defence of his dominions against the meditated aggressions of secret or avowed enemies that on a former occasion the Raja had himself expressed such sentiments and that the present circumstances being similar I had no doubt his sentiments were still the same he assured me of his sincere attachment to the Nizam and asked who meditated aggressions. I named Dowlat Rao Sindia. The Moonshee Sridhar Pundit then repeated what I had the honour to report to your Lordship in my last address relative to the different aspect of affairs now and last year. He added that Dowlat Rao Sindia was sufficiently employed by his domestic contests now fomented by Parsram Bhou and could not be at leisure to resume hostile designs against the Nizam and he asked if these projects were real did the Peshwa authorize or connive at them.

3. Not having your Lordship's instructions to disclose the Peshwa's treachery I said was it possible that one who was bound by the obligations of the treaties should give any sanction to hostile designs against his own ally. This was received as a direct denial and I therefore took a subsequent opportunity of insinuating that under the awe of Dowlat Rao Sindia's power the Peshwa might perhaps be compelled to give an apparent sanction to proceedings which in his heart he disapproved. As I seemed to mean only a future possible contingency the hint appeared to make no impression in the Raja's mind and I did not venture to make it more pointed.

4. In the meantime the Moonshee had said by the Raja's directions. Dowlat Rao Sindia was a servant of the Peshwa. If then he should form designs against the Nizam's territories and that against his superior's consent he would be forbidden by the Poona Government and should he disobey measures must be then resorted to for the purpose of reducing him to obedience in which case the Raja would doubtless be called upon to support the Peshwa's authority. However no orders had been yet received from Poona on this subject.

5. I replied that if the Peshwa fully possessed a due control over Dowlat Rao Sindia circumstances might have been very different. But far as Dowlat Rao Sindia was from pursuing the conduct which became him as a subordinate member of the Mahratta Empire it would not be sufficient to rely on the means the Raja had pointed out for checking his designs and more effectual measures must be taken.

6. Hitherto the subject had been treated with coldness very inconsistent with the sentiments I previously supposed the Raja to entertain and I had therefore advanced with caution towards the object of my instructions but at this period of the conference the Raja observed that the subject was of a very delicate nature and more than usual precautions were necessary to prevent the conversations being overheard. After such precautions had been taken and the Raja had consulted long with his ministers he said he was himself bound by defensive engagements to assist

the Nizam in case of his territories being invaded. If then Dowlat Rao Sindia should proceed to execute the projects ascribed to him he Raghojee would co-operate in chastizing him. I said prevention would be better than punishment and present measures should therefore be concerted which may force Sindia to relinquish his designs or if he should pursue them might facilitate the repelling of his aggressions. Being asked what measures I meant to recommend I then proceeded to the proposal of a Treaty of defensive alliance in the terms of your Lordship's instructions. The Raja expressed himself well disposed to accede to the proposal, but desired to postpone the further discussion of this matter until the next day, after he should have maturely considered it.

7 In the course of the conversation when I had remarked that the Peshwa possessed not a due control over Dowlat Rao Sindia's conduct, Suddhai Pundit asked me whether he should state it to the Raja as a proposition for concerting measures to restore the Peshwa's authority. I said I had mentioned it incidentally but had no objection to the present discussion of that subject and to hear the Raja's sentiments upon it. As he did not in my presence interpret this to the Raja, I have not reported it in its place as a part of the conversation. Perhaps an inference may be built on this passage that the Raja would be willing to concert the means of restoring orders to the Poona Government although he does not propose the subject himself.

8 The next day the conference was opened on the part of the Raja by saying it would be better to give the Peshwa the proposed option before the conclusion of the Treaty. If he acceded to the invitation the Treaty might be at once framed in the shape of a quadruple alliance or if he refused, one of triple alliance might be subsequently arranged. The Peshwa would have just right to complain of clandestine proceeding if the Raja entered into the proposed engagements without such previous option being given to him.

9 To the various arguments I used against this proposition he answered that the delay would be productive of no such ill consequence as I objected, since he considered himself as already bound by his verbal declaration and would act promptly if hostilities should in the meantime be actually commenced. 2nd, when I objected that written engagement would be more definite. Did I doubt his faithful adherence to a verbal promise. 3rdly when after complimenting him in your Lordship's name on his known probity I objected the possible misconception of a verbal communication, he said this might be obviated by his perusing and acknowledging a statement thereof drawn by me. 4thly when I urged that the present confused state of affairs at Poona not permitting the previous communication to the Peshwa, the British Government ever faithful to its engagements and attentive to the dues of friendship therefore insisted on a chance comprehending the Peshwa if he chose to accede the Raja would not acknowledge that the state of affairs at Poona was such as could justify him in not previously consulting the Peshwa so long as Bajee Rao has not deserved such neglect from him.

10 The Raja endeavoured to vindicate his own consistency in agreeing to the former proposal of a similar cause and objecting to it in this instance by saying that as we already had defensive engagements with the Peshwa and Nizam against Tippoo and he in alliance with those powers, the British Government and himself were in respect of each other the only new parties but defensive engagements against Dowlat Rao Sindia were new to all the parties intended to be comprehended in the treaty now agitated.

11 In an earlier stage of the conversation Sridhar Pundit had asked me whether this was to be a separate treaty as blended with that before proposed I said a separate one at which the Raja showed much satisfaction and on this as on several other occasions he expressed great solicitude to be made early acquainted with your Lordship's sentiments on the proposition repeated in my address of the 26th ultimo

During this conference I took an opportunity of recommending to the Raja to place his Army in a position to afford to the Nizam the most speedy and effectual aid He said he already had near the Nizam's frontier a sufficient force I said it would be nevertheless advisable that his Army should make a movement which might serve to awe Sindia He acquiesced but the choice of the post was reserved for further consideration

12 The Raja proposed to send a confidential person with a letter to Sindia written in strong terms declaring that if Dowlat Rao Sindia invaded the Nizam's dominions the Raja would employ his whole force to chastize him This he said would more than probably induce Dowlat Rao Sindia to relinquish his designs I at first declined the offer on the ground that it might prematurely make known to Dowlat Rao Sindia the detachment of his scheme I afterwards took the proposal in reference to your Lordship and said I should report and inform the Raja of your Lordship's sentiments on it

13 At the close of the conference I again reverted to the proposal I had made but with no further success The arguments used have been already briefly stated in the 9th paragraph of this address Finding it impossible to prevail unless I could disclose the treachery of the Peshwa I desisted and the sitting broke up at a very late hour

14 The next day Sridhar Pundit told my Moonshee in confidence that the Vakeel at Hyderabad had informed the Raja of deliberations having been there held A similar proposition would, the Vakeel added he opened by me but the negotiation would not fail at Hyderabad it being only suitable to Azimul Omrah's own views and not likely to be approved by the Nizam himself The Vakeel has been evidently misinformed and has mistaken the project of a defensive alliance for that of an offensive one I have directed my Moonshee to make this remark to Sridhar Pundit in printed terms I apprehended the impression must nevertheless remain and continue to render the Raja averse from acceding to the proposal in its full extent until I can announce to him the Nizam's having agreed to it and made known to him Bajee Rao's Treaty

15 On the 23rd having completed a Persian statement of the substance of both conferences for a purpose explained in the 9th paragraph of this address I sent it by my Moonshee to be perused and its accuracy acknowledged by the Raja I left blanks for the name of the place and for the date to which and when the army is to move and I directed him to urge the immediate filling up of those blanks with my concurrence But he has not yet seen the Raja who was that day indisposed and who still remains encamped near the Cunhan River where I shall rejoin him if his stay there be prolonged

16 I hope your Lordship will approve my not acknowledging that Bajee Rao authorizes or connives at Dowlat Rao Sindia's projects I believe the negotiation would be sooner successful were that fact made known to Ragojee but not having had any confidential communication from him of his real sentiments respecting affairs at Poona nor instructions from your Lordship for disclosing to him Bajee Rao's treachery I could not take upon me to do so In the answer I gave to the question mentioned in the 11th paragraph of his address I was governed by the consideration

that your Lordship's instructions of the 3rd March and 25th April are separate and if the former instructions are superseded by the last it may be your Lordship's pleasure that the former negotiation should be dropped or perhaps on the other hand that it should be pursued independently of the present one

Letter No 7 —Colebrooke again tries to impress upon Raghoji the desirability of an alliance with the Company and the Nizam to forestall the hostile intentions of Dowlat Rao Sindhia. The Bhonsla is hesitant because he "was confident Sindhia should not possibly undertake any hostile operations against the Nizam while his own domestic disputes were unadjusted" and because of "his disbelief of the hostile designs ascribed to Sindhia" Colebrooke refers to the incursions of the Pindaries into Berar, Amraoti and Ellichpur and induces Raghoji to direct operations against them

FROM—H^C COLEBROOKE, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR,
TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL

Nagpur, 30th May 1799

Finding that Raghoojee's army in Berar proper already commands as good a position as I can point out to answer the object of the instructions contained in the last paragraph of your Lordship's of the 25th ultimo, I have for the present restricted myself to require from the Raja of Berar immediate orders to his troops there stationed to be alert in defending the Nizam's Dominions against the incursions of the Bheders and Pindaras and the aggressions of any other invaders

2 To my first message on this subject Sridhar Pundit replied that the Raja was confident Sindia should not possibly undertake any hostile operations against the Nizam while his domestic disputes were unadjusted and that his reconciliation with Bhye would probably be effected in a short time when Sindia would doubtless return to Hindustan That the Pindaras had plundered the Raja's possessions as well as the Nizam's and even those of the Peshwa's himself The answer to representations on this subject had been that neither Doulat Rao Sindia nor the Peshwa were able to restrain those freelooters and that the Raja might chastize them himself That the Bhoonsla participating with the Nizam in the Revenues of the provinces which had been scene of depredations was no less interested than the Nizam in repelling them and that his Highness and Azim-ul-Omrah had themselves written to him to defend the country during the absence of the Nizam's Army in Mysore

3 In answer I received the requisition for the immediate issuing of orders to the Troops I observed that Sindia's reconciliation with the Bhyes would leave it open to him to carry his designs into effect and that the present depredations of Pindaras called for immediate measures of defence

4 To this message another evasive answer was returned The Raja, Sridhar Pundit said, was convinced no such designs could be entertained by Sindia Whenever, the Mahratta Government intended aggressions against the Nizam or His Highness did so against the Peshwa they always applied to the Bhoonsla for assistance and whichever side he espoused was always successful No such application had been now made by either party He was, therefore, confident that no aggressions were intended As for the Pindaras they had attacked Omrahty (Amraoti) belonging to Ragojee, at the same time that they plundered Ellichpur, they had been repulsed and would be so again without any fresh instructions to the Army if they renewed their incursions

5 In reply I again urged an immediate compliance with my request which I said was necessary to fulfill his promise to me and that which he acknowledged to have been requested from him by the Nizam. I therefore insisted on Sridhar taking the Raja's command for issuing the orders I suggested. This was at length complied with and yesterday evening the Raja gave the requisite directions in my Moonshee's presence.

6 From the mode in which business is here conducted three days have been employed since the Raja's return to Nagpore in this interchange of messages for the same procrastination prevails at this Court which is common at all Indian Durbars. I do not attribute the delays and evasions in this instance to any disinclination on the part of the Raja to act in the defence of the Nizam's territories but to his disbelief of the hostile designs ascribed to Sindia. I have therefore hopes of fully accomplishing the objects of your Lordship's instructions when I can announce the Nizam's acquiescence and satisfy the Raja's scruples respecting the Peshwa's Raghjee Bhonsla who certainly expects to enter into engagements with your Lordship's Government. The hopes of participating in the conquests on Tippoo Sultan constituted one but not the only motive and I am inclined to think he would readily agree to a treaty wherein Sindia's name was not inserted but only understood or in which it was inserted provided the Peshwa were previously consulted. From weighing so much and so often on the expected reconciliation of Sindia and the Bhys I infer his ignorance of the late intrigues at Poona and his fear of giving offence to the Peshwa who is now on the supposition of being emancipated by Dowlat Rao Sindia's departure for Hindostan after his reconciliation with the Bhye.

7 Upon these and other considerations I have thought it my duty to wait further communications from Hyderabad before I again urge the proposal of a defensive Treaty against Dowlat Rao Sindia. Should Captain Kirkpatrick's next dispatches furnish me grounds I shall renew my instance. Otherwise I conceive your Lordship will approve of my waiting for your further instructions.

Letter No 8—Colebrooke reports the conversations between his own Munshi and Shreedhar Pandit in which two points are clearly brought out. First the Bhonsla did not take seriously the possibility of Dowlat Rao attacking the Nizam and second that owing to sincere regard and friendship increasing between the two states to urge conclusion of a Treaty with too much earnestness might make an ill impression. That such an alliance had been thought of due to the collusion between Sindia and Haji Rao or of their having listened to Tippoo's Vakeel was kept concealed by Colebrooke in all his discussions.

FROM—H COLBROOK RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL

Nagpur 27th June 1799

I now beg leave to report to your Lordship the substance of what Sridhar Pandit communicated my Moonshee at two conversations yesterday and the preceding day. As the opinion I previously entertained respecting the disposition of this Court is now sufficiently confirmed I shall have the honour to add some observations on that subject.

2 Sridhar said that Sindia's family disputes were not likely to be soon reconciled. He was involved in inextricable difficulties and could not have sufficient confidence in his own power to think of aggressions upon any state. It was true he said that Sindia had sent troops to

various places on the Nizam's frontier, but hostile designs could not be thence inferred. Such designs he can never entertain, nor if he did, could effect anything. As for the depredations of his troops, no such intelligence has been here received, although the communications from the Raja's vakeels are regular. However, as I had received intelligence to that effect, he did not doubt its authenticity, but depended upon if Sindia can effect anything nor can he for some time, make any hostile attempts.

3 The British Government he said, being in alliance with the Nizam, thought it expedient to take measures for his defence on the sole consideration of the obligations of friendship. It is very proper, he remarked, that one ally should assist another and the Raja is equally disposed to fulfill the duties of friendship towards both states, while all three powers are united in one sentiment, how can Sindia face either of them? And what can he attempt, conscious as he must be, of his own inferiority?

4 With respect to a Treaty of Alliance he said, that friendship has long subsisted between the British Government and this state, and nothing has been wanting on either side. The same friendly connection and virtual alliance still subsist in full force, and there only remains a written treaty to be concluded. This he added, awaits your Lordship's commands on the point which has been submitted to your consideration. He, therefore, gave it as his advice not to press the matter before an answer is received. If it were brought forward earlier, the Raja might perhaps make this very objection. Whilst there is no variance, nor has been any deficiency on either side, but on the contrary sincere regard and friendship are daily increasing, to urge conclusion of a Treaty with too much earnestness might make an ill impression. This subject may be best renewed after the receipt of orders on the point above alluded to and will, said Sridhar, effect the satisfactory adjustment of all matters. The proposed treaty of alliance he added may be then concluded.

5 Sridhar Pundit postponed until a future day the desired communication of the Raja's sentiments respecting affairs at Poona and the conduct of Sindia in particular. I hope soon to have the honour of reporting to your Lordship a conference on this subject.

6. In the conversation, I remarked some change of opinion respecting Sindia since my conference with the Raja, his minister then insisted on the near probability of a reconciliation between Dowlat Rao and the widows of Madahjee Sindia, he now, treats it as an event distant, if not improbable. Though he continues to disbelieve the hostile designs ascribed to Dowlat Rao Sindia, he seems to intimate that his court is well disposed to enter into defensive engagements against that chieftain and he has not received the objections so strongly urged by the Raja against forming these engagements without the previous knowledge of the Peshwa.

7 Unless my Moonshee misunderstood him which he may have done, being uninformd of the preceding negotiation, Sridhar has declared in express terms that his court will be ready to conclude such a treaty. I apprehend, however, that treaty meant one of general alliance as first proposed. I am confident, that Raghoojee Bhoonsli sincerely wishes to enter into an alliance with your Lordship's Government but he seems anxious that a clause should be inserted in the treaty to provide for the partition of conquests in the event of his being involved in a war with some enemy of the allies.

8 In the event of open aggression on the part of Sindia I have little doubt that Raghoojee Bhoonsli would heartily co-operate in the defence of the Nizam's territories independently of any new engagements, and I am

inclined to believe that after the arrangement of a General Treaty of Alliance he will cheerfully accede to a distinct one or to a separate article expressly framed against Sindia. At the same time I feel no confidence that he will not persist in his former objections to the clause for giving the Peshwa an option according to the alliance. In his relative situation he seems to think it necessary that the Peshwa should be made originally a party to the Treaty or be excluded from it.

9. Fearing to exceed my instructions I have carefully avoided giving any hint to the collusion in between Sindia and Bajee Rao, or of their having listened to Tippoo's Vakeels. I have confined myself to the general assertion that Dowlat Rao entertains hostile designs and have only supported that assertion by late instances of depredations which he has encouraged his troops to commit. I hope to receive your Lordship's instructions how far it is your pleasure that the faithless conduct of Sindia and Bajee Rao should be conveyed to this Court. Circumstances may occur which might tempt me to venture on a fuller disclosure than I have yet made but it seems to be a matter of so much delicacy that I shall await your orders. If nothing in the meantime occurs to convince me that your Lordship's instructions will be best fulfilled by anticipating your commands.

Letter No 9.—Conveys the desire of the Governor-General for the conclusion of a treaty of subsidiary alliance with the Bhonsla on the basis of a portion or whole of Cullack province. The arguments of the Governor-General are set forth for Colebrooke to realize the urgency of such a treaty.

FROM—W. KIRKPATRICK SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT
FORT WILLIAM

TO—H. COLEBROOK RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

Fort William 16th April 1800

2. These letters will disclose to you the present views of the Governor-General at the Courts of Hyderabad and Poona and you will also perceive by them the degree of importance which His Lordship attaches to the accession of Raghojee Bhonsla to the alliance which His Lordship proposes forming with those courts and particularly to the new Treaty which Captain Kirkpatrick has been authorized to negotiate with His Highness the Nizam.

3. The objects to be attained by the proposed connection with the Court of Nagpur are the same as they were in February 1799 when the hostile designs which Sindia was suspected on sufficient ground to entertain against the Company and the Nizam suggested the expediency of an union of those persons whose interests were most endangered by the violence and ambition of that Chief.

4. Circumstances have hitherto prevented Sindia from carrying into execution the hostile designs then imputed to him but there is abundant reason to apprehend that the same designs continue to be entertained by him and that he only waits a favourable occasion for giving them effect.

5. The death of Nana Furnavese having recently removed one of the principal barriers to the ambitious projects of Sindia the probability of an early renewal of those projects in his mind is considerably increased.

Whatever the power and resources of the Peshwa as Sovereign of the Mahratta Empire may be they must now be regarded as having passed completely into the hands of Sindia whose means of disturbing the Neighbours are consequently proportionately augmented.

6 The advances which you made on the occasion referred to appeared to the Governor-General to have been received by the Court of Nagpur in a manner sufficiently favourable and the danger of the Berar Government from the violence and ambition of Sindia being rather increased than diminished since that period His Lordship concludes that you will experience no difficulty in renewing the negotiation or in conducting it to the desired issue

7 The British Government has always maintained a good understanding with the Government of Berar, and the policy of cultivating the friendship of a state whose means of disturbing us, in consequence of its local position with respect to our richest and most valuable possessions are very considerable is sufficiently obvious. It is also evidently the interest of His Highness the Nizam to cultivate the utmost intimate friendship and union with the same state

8 Although it is on the one hand true that as the assurance of the Company and of Nizam are no longer occupied in the prosecution of a distant and arduous War, but are entirely at liberty to watch the motions of Sindia, there is not now the same necessity for strengthening ourselves against that Chief by an alliance with the Government of Berar which existed in February 1799, yet it is equally clear on the other side, that in every other respect, the motives to such a connection continue no less forcible than formerly, if they be not rather increased in consequence of intermediate events, and of the additional proofs which have since appeared of the dangerous temper and hostile designs of Sindia

9 The Governor-General is but imperfectly informed with regard to the nature of the differences existing between Sindia and the Raja of Berar, but His Lordship generally understands that Sindia has long viewed with jealousy and dissatisfaction both the acquisitions made of late years by the Bhonsla in the Malwa quarter and the favourable disposition which he has generally manifested towards the late Nana Furnavese

How far or how soon these or other circumstances are likely to induce Sindia to attack Raghojee Bhonsla, is uncertain, but the danger of the Berar State from the restless ambition of Sindia appears to the Governor-General sufficiently urgent to render it advisable for that Government to provide against it as soon and as effectually as possible

10 It is sufficiently obvious that the Court of Nagpur, could not in any other manner so effectually guard against the danger described as by engaging the Company and the Nizam to guarantee its territories against Dowlat Rao Sindia

It would at the same time be equally the interest of the Company and of the Nizam to enter into such a guarantee

11 For the aggrandizement of Sindia in whatever form or in whatever quarter it shall occur, must be always prejudicial to our interests and to that of the Nizam. It will be particularly injurious to us, whenever it shall tend to weaken any of the barriers at present placed between us, but it will be in an eminent degree dangerous to us, should it involve the actual removal of any of those barriers and especially of that one which would lay open to a needy and unprincipled Chief the rich and flourishing Provinces of Bengal. It follows from hence that we are scarcely less interested at this time in the safety of the Berar State from any hostile attack on the part of Sindia, than we are from averting the same danger from the Government of Hyderabad

12 For these reasons the Governor General is decidedly of opinion that it continues to be highly expedient that a Defensive league should be entered into by the Company by the Nizam and by the Court of Nagpur against Sindia expressly or against their enemies generally

13 As the security which the Raja of Berar would desire from the proposed guarantee would be of the most permanent and effectual kind it is reasonable to suppose that he would not be unwilling to purchase it at the price of such a compromise of his claims on the Court of Hyderabad as this court has long wished to effect through the interposition of the Poona Government and as without essentially affecting the right or revenue of the Raja would be calculated to establish and maintain harmony and goodwill between the two states. It is also the Governor General thinks reasonable to conclude, that in return for so important an advantage the Raja would make no difficulty in consenting to such arrangements with the British Government for a permanent settlement of all boundary questions and for the improvement of the commercial intercourse between the two countries as should appear likely to promote their mutual benefit and quiet

14 There are other objects which it is the anxious desire of the Governor General to carry at the Court of Nagpur. The principal of these objects consists in the acquisition by the Company of the province of Cuttack for an equivalent in money or otherwise. His Lordship recommends the subject to your constant attention and desires you to endeavour to obtain whatever information may be practicable, consistently with the caution necessary in so delicate a case relative to the probable sentiments and inclinations of the Court of Nagpur with regard to the cession or exchange alluded to

15 As the objects of the British Government in the proposed Treaty with the Raja of Berar would be essentially promoted and secured by the establishment of a British subsidiary force in the Raja's dominions the Governor General directs you at a proper and convenient stage of your negotiation to sound the disposition of the Court of Nagpur on this head but without urging or even plainly proposing the measure if you should find it at all disagreeable to that court. In the event however of the Raja's being disposed to receive subsidiary force from the Company His Lordship thinks it necessary to apprise you that he would readily accept as a security for the payment of the subsidy of the troops and even prefer any other arrangement on assignment of such part of the province of Cuttack as should be adequate to the purpose and should place under the management of the Company such a tract of territory as should establish the continuity of the dominions from Bengal to the northern Circars

16. The Governor General deems it necessary that two Regiments of native infantry with the usual proportion of artillery is the force which His Lordship would wish to establish at Nagpur and that he will not consent to furnish to the Government of Berar a smaller subsidiary detachment than one Regiment of native infantry

17 In the event of the Raja's assent to the establishment of a subsidiary force at Nagpur His Lordship authorizes you to detain the native infantry of Beogal now on its march through Berar and a conditional order will be forwarded to the Officer Commanding that Regiment directing him to obey your requisition. The establishment of a subsidiary force in Berar is a point of such importance in the present moment that his Lordship authorizes you to agree to any reasonable conditions which the Raja may annex to such an arrangement and to accommodate the assignment of funds for the payment of the Troops to His Highness's convenience as far

as may be practicable. You are, therefore, empowered to waive the considerations of any or of all the points stated in the preceding paragraphs excepting a reasonable accommodation of the Raja's claims on the Nizam, which the Governor-General deems essential to the permanence of the proposed triple alliance provided such sacrifice shall facilitate the establishment of a body of our troops in Berar

18 If the Court of Nagpur should consent to receive a permanent subsidiary force, and if the 10th Regiment of Bengal native infantry should by that time have advanced too far on its way to Cawnpore to be recalled for this service, the Governor-General will adopt the necessary measures for furnishing the required force with the least practicable delay

19 In conducting the present negotiation, you are first to sound the disposition of the Court of Nagpur with respect to such a Treaty as the Resident at Poona has been authorised to conclude with the Peshwa, and whenever you shall learn that such a Treaty has been actually consented to by the Peshwa and accepted by the Nizam, you are formally to invite Raghojee Bhonsla to accede to the same, on such terms with respect to the Company as have been generally described in the preceding part of this letter and with respect to the Nizam on such conditions as may have been previously concerted between you and Captain Kirkpatrick. The concessions to be made to the British Government will not be required in the first instance to be more particularly expressed than they have been in the foregoing paragraphs. That is to say, it will be sufficient in addition to the mutual guarantee if suitable stipulations be introduced in the Treaty binding the Court of Nagpur to come to an early and satisfactory settlement with the Company on all points relative to boundary questions and to take without delay the necessary measures in concert with the British Government for the purpose of establishing a free and well regulated commercial intercourse between the two countries

20 The proposed Treaty with Peshwa, failing or not being likely to take place, Raghojee Bhonsla is then to be invited to accede to the separate defensive engagements which Captain Kirkpatrick has been instructed to conclude with the Nizam. The conditions on which the Court of Nagpur is to be admitted to a participation of the benefits of these engagements will be same as in the case of the proposed Treaty with the Peshwa and as described in the last paragraph

21 In every event a power is to be reserved to the Peshwa of acceding to any defensive alliance which shall be formed between the Company, the Nizam and the Raja of Berar whichever he shall think proper to do so, on the conditions enumerated on the project of the Treaty contained in my letter of the 12th instant to the Resident at Poona with the addition of such other stipulations as the allies may judge proper to require of the Peshwa in consequence of his rejection of their first proposal

22 You are authorised to detain the 10th Regiment at the requisition of the Court of Nagpur previously to the formal conclusion of the proposed defensive alliance between the Company, the Nizam and the Raja of Berar provided you should be perfectly satisfied of the disposition of Raghojee Bhonsla to enter into that alliance on the prescribed terms

23 You are to ascertain as soon as possible the precise views of the Court of Nagpur in the present conjuncture and the footing on which it would be willing to enter into engagements respectively with the Company, with the Nizam and with the Peshwa, of the nature described in the present despatch and in the enclosed letters to the Residents at Hyderabad and Poona, and you will communicate with the utmost practicable expedition every necessary information on these points to the Governor-General, to Colonel Palmer and to Captain Kirkpatrick

Letter No 10 — Reports that a copy of the Treaty of Hyderabad with the Nizam had been delivered to him. Since the Bhonsla's main object was the reduction of Dowlat Rao Sindhia's power and the emancipation of Bajl Rao he appeared to be favourably inclined towards the conclusion of a treaty to increase the relations of amity and friendship with the Company and requested Colebrooke to propose the plan of a treaty to that end.

FROM—H COLEBROOKE RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

TO—THE RIGHT HONBLE EARL OF MORNINGTON
GOVERNOR GENERAL

Nagpur 23rd May 1800

In consequence of the advances I made for resuming negotiations with this court as reported to your Lordship in my last dispatches I had a private audience by appointment of Raja Raghojee Bhonsla in the evening of the 20th instant. The Raja opened the conference by taking occasion from a trivial circumstance to expatiate on the sincere friendship which has ever subsisted between the British Government and himself. I made suitable replies expressing the hope that the friendship and concord which have so long subsisted between the two states would be now more and more increased and strengthened. The Raja declared his cordial coincidence in this wish. I then mentioned that a copy of the treaty of Hyderabad had been procured for his perusal agreeably to the request he had formerly made. It was produced and I delivered it to him as had been previously concerted with his Moonshee who requested me to do so probably with the same view with which I complied namely that occasion might then arise for opening a fresh negotiation.

2 On the day preceding this interview I had received through my Moonshee very full information from Shridhar Pundit on the views of this court respecting the Peshwa and Dowlat Rao Sindia. The reduction of Dowlat Rao Sindia's power and the emancipation of Bajee Rao are avowed by him, to be objects the accomplishment of which the Raja of Berar most earnestly desires. As this information is perfectly consistent with probability I saw no reason to hesitate in now opening the subject of the intended alliance. Accordingly when asked by the Raja whether I had received dispatches from your Lordship with the copy of the treaty, I replied that your Lordship had received with pleasure the information of his declared readiness to enter into written engagements with the British Government that it continued to be your Lordship's intention that a treaty should be arranged with him, at a proper season and that a fit occasion for doing so was not at hand. He repeated the assurances of his disposition to strengthen and increase the relations of amity and friendship with the company and requested me to propose the plan of a treaty for that end. As the number of the persons present at this interview was at this period of the conference increased by the intrusion of two persons to whose decretion I did not think so delicate a matter ought to be entrusted, and whom the Raja nevertheless did not think proper to exclude I replied that a project of a treaty would be hereafter prepared and that I should meantime communicate the outlines of it to him that the principles on which it would be founded might be considered and recognized.

3 Accordingly I next day sent a message by my Moonshee to the Raja's minister Shridhar Pundit. It was put in writing for the sake of obviating mistakes and for the same end was left in writing with Shridhar Pundit. To this message a translation of which I have the honour to

enclose I added an intimation, that the treaty would contain a clause for the adjustment of all matters with the Nizam and another relative to boundary questions with the Company

4 Raja Raghojee having the same day proceeded on a hunting excursion, I have not yet received any reply to that message. In answer to the separate intimation, Shridhar Pundit acknowledged the expediency of an adjustment of all boundary questions with the Company and observed that this Government had subsisting treaties with the Nizam by which matters were already adjusted to mutual satisfaction. As it is sufficient in the present stage of the negotiation to have hinted that such conditions will be annexed to the proposed alliance, I shall wait for information from Captain Kirkpatrick on the compromise which the Court of Hyderabad desires to effect before I proceed further on this point.

5 No fit occasion has yet arisen for sounding the disposition of Raja Raghojee Bhonsla on the other important points, which your Lordship wishes to carry at this court. I am in daily expectation of some opportunity of discovering his sentiments on the subject of a permanent British force. The daily intelligence received by him of marauders making inroads into his territories, and even repulsing the troops sent against them, connected with the belief here entertained that they are countenanced by Dowlat Rao Sindia entitles me to expect an early overture for immediate assistance from the British Government.

Letter No. 11 —Reports the alternative proposals for the Treaty advanced on behalf of the Bhonsla. Intimation of a subsidiary treaty given to the Bhonsla by the Resident.

FROM—H COLEBROOKE, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR,

TO—THE MOST HON'BLE MARQUIS WELLESLEY,
GOVERNOR-GENERAL

Nagpur, 14th June 1800

I have not yet received any direct answer from Raja Raghojee Bhonsla to the overture made by me as already reported to your Lordship. He continues to hold daily consultations with his ministers and other advisers on the expediency of entering into an alliance with the British Government upon the terms of subsidizing a permanent British force, for this he supposed, will be made an indispensable condition of the alliance. Having received information, upon which I can rely that such is the subject of his present deliberations, I have not yet made any proposition to him on this point, thinking it more advisable to wait the result of his own deliberations. In the meantime I take every opportunity of throwing out such intimations as appear to me best adapted to assist the arguments of those among his councillors, who advise his acceding to the terms they expect will be proposed.

2 The Moonshee, Shridhar Pundit, endeavoured to sound whether a clause for reciprocally furnishing military aid when called for, would be agreed to in lieu of one for stationing a permanent detachment on the Raja's dominions. My answer conveyed through the Moonshee who is employed by me in intercourse with Shridhar Pundit, have been calculated to discourage such a proposition and confirm the notion that a permanent subsidiary force will be proposed as an indispensable condition of the alliance.

3 I have thought it advisable to follow this method because the Raja's reluctance which arises only from vague apprehensions of losing his independency if he accepts a stipendiary force from the British Government will thus probably be overcome by his keen fears of intended aggressions from Dowlat Rao Sindia when he sees no other resource for protection against a danger which he thinks imminent. Should he however contrary to my expectations resolve on abiding the danger sooner than subsidize British Troops permanently stationed with him I am confident of receiving the earliest intelligence of such his final determination from those among his advisers who urge him to come into the views of the British Government and who will make a merit to me of the advice they have given to him. In that event I shall be governed by your Lordship's instructions not to urge or plainly propose the measure when I know it to be disagreeable to this court.

4 To accelerate his determination I have taken occasion from the intelligence he has received that a treaty has been concluded at Hyderabad to hint that I am ready to proceed in arranging a similar treaty with him on the principles and for the purposes explained in my overture to him. His ministers were anxious for such a hint that they may urge him to come to a final determination and thus put an end to the wavering which is chiefly ascribed to the contrary advice of the Dewan and of other persons who have influence at this court through the means of the Raja's mother. I do not foresee any probable inconvenience from this step I have taken as I shall not be thereby placed in any necessity of formally inviting the Raja of Berar to accede to the alliance before I know the probable result of negotiations at Poona nor before I have concerted with Captain Kirkpatrick the terms in respect to the Nizam upon which the Raja of Berar can be admitted under your Lordship's instructions to become a member of the alliance. But should the intimation so given produce the effect that is expected from it I shall be enabled to proceed immediately to arrange the terms regarding a subsidiary force in conformity with your Lordship's intentions.

Letter No 12.—Reports further negotiations for a subsidiary alliance without any tangible results. But it is evident from the letter the Bhonsla is still hesitant regarding the conclusion of such a treaty since he expects that with the appointment of Moraba Fadnavis the fears of Dowlat Rao's mischief will be dissipated and the affairs of the Peshwa will improve.

FROM—H COLEBROOKE RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

TO—MARQUIS WELLFSLY GOVERNOR GENERAL

Nagpur the 17th July 1800

I have had the honour to receive your Lordship's instructions forwarded by Colonel Kirkpatrick under dated 17th ultimo and I had the pleasure of acknowledging the receipt of them in a letter to him dated 6th instant.

2 A severe illness with which Shreedhar the Raja of Berar's Moonshee has been since seized has prevented any later intercourse in which the proposal of a subsidiary force could be brought forward or the disposition of this court be founded so far as relates to the conditions specified in the second secret and separate article of the treaty offered to the acceptance of the Nizam. In finding the disposition of this court relative to these points I should at all events use great delicacy because

I apprehend the conditions here alluded to will be in some respects very unpalatable to the Raja of Berar and it will therefore be inexpedient I conceive that he should receive any further intimation of the conditions annexed to the proposed alliance, until the acceptance of the above-mentioned treaty by the Nizam, furnish occasion for proceeding in the negotiation in a formal manner. I entertain little doubt the Raja of Berar is very solicitous, to become the ally of the company and would therefore cheerfully consent to the required adjustment of all unsettled points between him and the Nizam, according to the tenor of subsisting treaties and would agree to certain interchanges of territory with the Company for the sake of terminating all boundary disputes, but I apprehend he would be extremely disinclined to submit such unsettled points to the arbitration of the Company or to promise any cession of territory for a pecuniary equivalent.

3 His acceding to these terms and his acceptance of a stationary British force, will depend upon the fears he may entertain of Sindia's power and designs. At present his apprehensions of imminent danger from that quarter are greatly diminished, since the appointment of Moraba to be Furnavese. It is evident from the whole tenor of the intelligence, I have since received relative to the present views of this court, that the restoration of good order throughout the Mahratta Empire, is confidently expected as the certain result of this single event and that the Raja of Berar entertains sanguine hopes that Dowlat Rao Sindia will now lay aside his hostile designs against him. Under these circumstances I can have little hopes of making much progress in the negotiation at this court until the Raja of Berar becomes sensible that Sindia's disposition is unaltered and that Moraba is unable to maintain tranquillity among the several Mahratta chieftains.

4 In explanation of the last paragraph of my letter to Colonel Kirkpatrick under date the 6th instant, I beg leave to add to what was there submitted to your Lordship, that the infantry I proposed should be furnished by the Raja of Berar, in case he did not accept a British Troop would consist of Arab and Pathan match-lock-men, as well as Hindustan Musquetiers (Sic). He could not I believe furnish more than half the number of well equipped and even these would not be really superior in discipline and equipment to irregular Arabs.

Letter No 13.—The cause of Raghoji's hesitation is now clearly hinted—an agent of Dowlat Rao Sindia was on his way to Nagpur from Poona and "the Rajah has already resolved to conclude nothing definitely until he has learnt what Morar Rao has it in his charge to propose".

FROM—H COLEBROOKE, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR,

TO—MARQUIS WELLESLEY, GOVERNOR-GENERAL

Nagpur, the 31st July 1800

I beg leave to report to your Lordship a message this day received from Raja Raghojee Bhonsla. My Moonshee waited on him this morning by appointment and had a private audience. The Raja desired him to inform me, that Morar Rao Dowlat is now on his way from Poona as Vakeel on the part of Dowlat Rao Sindia to this Durbar. He wished to have

given me the earliest intelligence of it but had hitherto waited for information from his own Vakeel at Poona that Morar Rao had actually set off. He had not indeed yet received direct information of it but would nevertheless invite me to an interview on the 3rd of next month (the intermediate days being occupied by religious fasts) for the purpose of making some communications on this and also on other topics he added that he would always acquaint me with every matter and occurrences trivial as well as important for the greatest regard subsisted on both sides and he desired the friendship of the British Government above all others and was most attached to it

2 Notwithstanding the very explicit terms of this message I suspect that the Raja has already resolved to conclude nothing definitely until he has learnt what Morar Rao has it in charge to propose. This conjecture is found on some rather vague expressions dropt by Shridhar Pundit. Should I however in the meantime receive intelligence of the conclusion of the treaty at Hyderabad I shall use every endeavour and I hope not without success to obviate this delay

3 Although this minister and Kishan Rao continue to hold nearly the same language they at first did respecting the power and importance appendant on Morar's office and his disposition and abilities to conciliate parties and to maintain tranquillity in the Mahratta Empire yet the private information reported in my address to your Lordship of the 24th instant is sufficiently confirmed. The intelligence of Morar Rao's mission rather than that of Morar's appointment must be the real cause that the Raja of Berar's apprehensions of immediate danger to himself from Sindia's proceedings are so apparently diminished. His jealousy of that chieftain's predominant power is by no means decreased and the tranquillity which may follow the Peshwa's unreserved submission to Sindia's guidance is not such a system of good as the Raja of Berar desires to see established in the Mahratta Empire

Letter No 14 —Reports that the Bhonsla wants to prolong deliberations and watch events and take a decision by the Daserah

FROM—H COLBROOKE RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

TO—MARQUIS WELLESLEY GOVERNOR GENERAL

Nagpur the 24th August 1800

I have received direct confirmation of the opinion I ventured to offer in my address to your Lordship dated 7th instant the Raja of Berar continues to avoid any further discussion of the terms of the projected alliance, and does not intend to proceed in the negotiation opened here until he has learnt what Sindia's Vakeel is sent to propose to him. But I am taught to believe that this does not arise from a want of sincerity on his part nor from any formed design of temporising. He merely hesitates on taking a step which must according to his notions subject his future counsels and measures to the guidance of the British Government the policy of this court has always hitherto been to maintain its independency by cultivating the relations of unity with all surrounding states without forming a decided

connexion with anyone. Though the Raja of Berar be sensible that the season is now past in which that policy could be successfully pursued yet he feels much reluctance in finally abandoning it.

2 A person named Jeswant Rao who possesses influence at this Durbar though his connexions render him more dependent on the Court of Hyderabad than on that of Nagpore, frequently communicates information to me of his own accord relative to the views of this Government. I place much reliance on intelligence received from him because I know his means of information to be good and because I am not aware that he can have any motives for deceiving me. From him I learn that the Raja of Berar has actually resolved to prolong until the Dussera his deliberation on the measures to be finally adopted by him, until then it is the Raja's plan to watch events and to consult with his advisers.

3 A message yesterday sent to me by Shridhar Pundit on the Raja's part is consistent with this notion of the present views of this court. He entrusted me not to misconstrue the present delays, but Sindia's Vakeel is daily expected and I must be sensible that it is necessary to hear what he has to say. Shridhar besides expatiating on his own zeal added as from himself that the Raja has nothing more at heart than to cement an alliance with the Company, the value of which he well knows. In answer to an observation hinted to him that the negotiation which was deferred for two days has remained suspended for two months, he said the expected arrival of Sindia's Vakeel was the sole cause of the delay, but in the end this mission can produce no effect, for defensive measures are indispensably necessary. Sindia's enmity to this and the other states is inveterate and measures must be concerted to guard against it. In reply to this message I have expressed my satisfaction as the assurances it contains adding that I wish no ill consequence may follow the past and present delays which appear to me inconsistent with the real interests of the court.

4 I had the honour to report to your Lordship on the 17th ultimo the answer I sent to a letter received from the Raja of Berar's nephew. The next day I received a second note from him desiring I would appoint a time for him to call on me and he again recommended secrecy without which he observed there can be no counsel. As it seemed improper to receive a visit from him by stealth, or to carry on a secret correspondence with him, I declined in my answer to this note, being made a party in his secrets and counsels. On the following day, he nevertheless sent a confidential person, who again urged me to receive his visit and listen to his application, I told him that I would receive with pleasure an avowed visit from him, but being acquainted with the object of it, I thought it necessary he should be apprised of what had been already intimated to him, namely that I could not in this business act a part which when known the Raja of Berar might give him just cause of dissatisfaction.

5 This trivial matter has here ended and I have not found further reason to believe that the suspicion mentioned in the 3rd paragraph of my last address to your Lordship is well founded. That discontent prevails among the members of the Raja's family is certain, but whether it had yet proceeded to the length of a concerted enterprize against his authority, appeared to me doubtful and I believe I have laid too much stress on a very obscure expression in the first note received from the Raja's nephew.

Letter No 15 —Colebrooke reports that he had an interview with Raghoji, and he was told that in response to the request of the Peshwa, Raghoji had sent two agents, his Monshee and Chitnavis to Poona for discussing the situation and terms of a treaty with the Company. The Bhonsla assured here that a treaty of the type proposed, would be more easily acceptable to the Peshwa. If his agents recommended it, than if the British agents did. The trend of the Bhonsla appears to be to put off rather than expedite the conclusion of such a treaty.

FROM—H COLEBROOKE RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

TO—MARQUIS WELLESLEY, GOVERNOR GENERAL

Nagpur, the 2nd October 1800

A fortnight has elapsed since I learnt that Raja Raghojee Bhonsla has resolved to send his confidential ministers Shridhar Pundit and Kishan Rao to Poona not having learnt with certainty the objects of their mission. I delayed until now reporting the information to your Lordship in daily expectation of an audience from the Raja for he intimated many days ago the intention of inviting me to an interview but postponed it from time to time with continual apologies. This morning however I waited on him by an appointment and had a private audience at which his ministers were only present.

2 The Moonshiee Shridhar told me by his directions that the Raja has received a letter from Baji Rao earnestly requesting the Bhonsla to send confidential persons for the purpose of concerting the means of receiving his authority and emancipating him from the thralldom in which he is held by Dowlat Rao Sindia. In consequence of this request, which was enforced in the most earnest manner, the Raja has resolved to depute his Moonshiee and Chitnavis to the Court of Poona. After apologizing for the delay in communicating this information he added that the Raja now communicated it not only because the close friendship which subsists between the British Government and himself but it a duty to act in concert and to make known all important transactions to each other but because this measure would forward the views which both or rather all three (this the Company and the Nizams) have in a common. The Raja himself employing a very strong metaphor intimated that he considered his Government as identified with your Lordship's and his ministers while they represented him at Poona. It was true he said your Lordship had already a representative at that court but since Peshwa would listen more readily to the suggestions of one of his own nation a brother as it were, than to propositions coming directly from the Nizam or from your Lordship he the Raja would be best able to dispose him to come into the views of the allies.

3 Though I perceived the drift of this to be an indirect offer of becoming the channel of negotiating for the Company with the Peshwa I did not think right to take it in that light but received it as a mere compliment and assured the Raja that your Lordship too entertains the same sentiments of friendship and regard for him and his Government.

4 Shridhar observed that the Peshwa will be knowing the close union which subsists between this state and the British Government would doubtless ask him, though already informed through the Resident at Poona what is your Lordship's disposition in regard to him.

He desired I would instruct him what he should say and then proceeded to propose as the answer he intended to make common-place assurances of amity and friendship

I acquiesced in the propriety of such an answer adding that he might assure His Highness the Peshwa that your Lordship had nothing more at heart than his prosperity and to establish it on a firm foundation was the chief object of your Lordship's present measures The Moonshee and Chitnavees afterwards requested me to introduce them by letter to Colonel Palmer This I readily promised to do

5 Shreedhar then reminded me that I had more than once remarked to the Raja that Bajee Rao was not master of his own actions At length however he seemed to be truly sensible of his situation and desirous of extricating himself from it In short what could hardly be hoped from the utmost exertion is now on the point of becoming attainable without toil or trouble I replied, that it was not without labour His Highness the Peshwa had been rendered sensible of his true interests Probably he now saw in its proper light the zeal of the allies for his welfare

6 In the purpose of ascertaining whether the Raja be at present disposed to immediately arrange the terms of an alliance with the British Government, I took occasion to inform him that the treaty to which he promised to accede, was now finally arranged at Hyderabad, that I expected in a few days to receive intelligence of its being signed and should communicate the information of it to him In his answer he eluded the overture by saying that in true friendship required the mutual communication of such important transactions

7 Before I submit to your Lordship's consideration the inferences which I draw from what has passed at this interview, I beg leave to notice a communication received a few days earlier from Shridhar Pundit He told my Moonshee for my information that intelligence lately received from Poona promised success to the exertions made by Raja Raghojee Bhonsla to forward the views of the British Government there The Raja he said has strongly exerted himself and his advice frequently repeated through the channel of Vakeels here and at Poona has made impression The Peshwa indeed listens the more readily to it, because the suggestions came from one who in a manner bears affinity to him, and whose interests are nearly the same with his own Sindia he added is restrained by nothing but his awe of the British power and the Raja has placed before the Peshwa in a forcible light the impossibility of his obtaining effectual relief from any other quarter, and the danger of his situation should the British Government withdraw its countenance from him

8 I now beg leave to remark that the Raja has evidently no present intention of bringing to an immediate conclusion the negotiations opened here Had Bajee Rao continued to afford a seeming sanction to Sindia's proceedings, I have little doubt that the Raja of Berar would for his own safety in so dangerous an emergency have immediately acceded to the proposed alliance and would himself have been importunate for the conclusion of the treaty Since His Highness the Peshwa has signified to him an anxious desire to be delivered from the oppression of Sindia, the Raja of Berar having now little to apprehend for his own safety hopes to enter into the alliance in concert with Bajee Rao Besides other benefits thence expected by him, he probably hopes to make more advantageous terms for himself, than if he separately acceded to the treaty It is possible too that

His Highness the Peshwa who is I believe unwilling to admit Raghojee Bhonsla as a party to a negotiation and treaty on equal terms may have given some hint which tends to discourage the Raja from immediately concluding separate engagements

9 In consequence of Bajee Rao's having requested him to send confidential persons to his court the Raja seems now to entertain the hope of becoming or at least appearing to become the channel of arranging a treaty between the Company and the Peshwa. The reasons why this would to him be very desirable are so obvious that I think it needless to importune your Lordship with the mention of them. I can also readily believe that the Raja of Berar wishes to make a merit with the Peshwa of his entering into engagements with the Company and the Nizam for the Peshwa's benefit, rather than for his own. It is also sufficiently probable that he will be desirous of exacting from Bajee Rao concessions in return for the part he takes in concerting measures for restoring the Peshwa's authority. He will perhaps require the formal renunciation of the tribute anciently paid by him to Bajee Rao's predecessors of which a remission was granted to him by the late Nana I urnaveese but so far as I am informed without the express sanction of the Peshwa

Though the Raja of Berar's councils have taken a turn very different from what I was led to expect I have no reasons to distrust the accuracy of the information I have had the honour to report to your Lordship at various times and especially on the 14th ultimo. The Raja's present views have been suggested to him by the Peshwa's invitation to take a leading part in the arrangement of the affairs of the Mahratta Empire and his request that confidential persons should be sent to his court to concert measures for that end. As this circumstance was probably unforeseen by the Raja of Berar his present intentions must have been very lately formed, and it is not unlikely they may be changed by the time I receive a copy of the Treaty of Hyderabad with information from Captain Kirkpatrick that it has been actually signed. The exigency of the Peshwa's affairs cannot admit of long delay in taking steps to retain his authority I therefore hope that further communications from Poona will render the Raja of Berar sensible of the expediency of acceding to the alliance so soon as the option of it may be formally tendered to him. In the mean time lest he should affect to construe my silence into approbation of his present plan I shall tomorrow make a representation to the Raja on the subject opened at the interview this morning

Letter No 16—Colebrooke reports that after he learnt from Hyderabad that the Peshwa had refused to conclude a treaty of subsidiary alliance with the Company, he had an interview with Raghoji and pointed out to him the futility of sending his agents to Poona. Colebrooke does not doubt that Raghoji was not sincere in his intentions to conclude a treaty himself or to induce the Peshwa to accede to the terms of the treaty

FROM—H COLEBROOKE RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

TO—MARQUIS WELLESLEY GOVERNOR GENERAL

Nagpur 21st October 1800

Yesterday on my return from an interview with Raja Raghojee Bhonsla I received dispatches from Hyderabad by which I learn that the Peshwa has finally refused to accede to the terms of alliance proposed to him and that there is reason to believe a reconciliation between him and Hindia has taken place

As the intended mission of ministers from this court to that of Poona which seemed to me a measure of very doubtful expediency even when there was ground for expecting that the Peshwa would be induced to accede to the proposed alliance now appears to be open to forcible objections, I immediately sent a message requesting another audience this day or if that were for any reason impracticable inviting a visit of one of the Raja's ministers. As the Raja remained yesterday at his gardens, the message could not be delivered to him until this morning. He immediately appointed an interview at noon and I waited upon him accordingly.

2 Before I report to your Lordship the representations made by me at this audience, I beg leave to mention, that the audience to which the Raja had invited me yesterday, produced no new communication on his part. He made strong professions of his attachment to the British Government, and of his zeal to forward your Lordship's views at the Court of Poona and said that all the states being now united by a conformity of sentiments nothing remained but to reduce Sindia to his duty and thus remove the thorn which still disturbs the general tranquillity and safety. He asked what answer should be given by his ministers to a question which the Peshwa would probably ask whether the British Government is willing to afford his assistance on his application, I replied that the Peshwa was already sufficiently apprized of the disposition of the British Government to afford him permanent aid. I added that as the Nizam's requisition for assistance had been fully complied with, so would a similar application from another ancient ally be received with equal complacency.

3 It is necessary to inform your Lordship, that I had been previously apprized that this question would be asked me and my informant thought that the object was to sound whether such an application from this court would be complied with, though I did not believe his conjecture to be well founded, yet I judged it proper to make such an answer as would not be unsuitable to that view, because Shridnar in his conversation with my Moonshee has been very explicit in solemnly pledging the Raja of Berar to accede to the Treaty of Hyderabad within the space of two months, should the Peshwa not immediately yield to the endeavours he and his colleague would rise to persuade him to accede to the proposed alliance, and because he hinted at the same time, but in terms rather obscure that the Raja of Berar has it in contemplation to solicit assistance from the British Government.

4 The Raja yesterday repeated his former declarations that his ministers would negotiate at the Court of Poona for your Lordship not for him. To prevent his misunderstanding the complimentary answer I made and his considering it as an acquiescence on my part, in the proposition hinted by him, I recommended that the ministers should consult Colonel Palmer if anything relating to the interests of the British Government should be discussed in the course of their negotiations with Peshwa.

5 The Raja's total silence as to the change in the disposition of the Court of Poona though intelligence of it ought to have reached him and his own tardiness in communicating his intention of deputing ministers thither and his neglect of consulting your Lordship and the Nizam before he resolved on that measure, furnish some grounds for doubting his present sincerity. Yet in comparing the date of the communications he made to the Nizam with that of the change that has taken place in the Peshwa's views, and on considering the very solemn declarations made by him and his minister, I thought it improbable that the Raja should have adopted so dangerous a policy, as would be that of prosecuting and invidious designs. I therefore determined to be unreserved on the

communication of the reasons upon which I found my objections to the measure of sending ministers to Poona. These representations this day made by me were influenced by these considerations:

6 After a short introduction in which I alluded to the Raja's professions of friendship for the Company and his declaration that this mission was intended to promote your Lordship's views at Poona I said that the declared object of the mission would not be at all forwarded by the ministers immediately proceeding on it. I observed that the event has in fact confirmed my former opinion on the inexpediency of this mission although the turn affairs have taken at Poona is the exact reverse of what was wished and expected. The Peshwa while he required the Raja of Berar to depute ministers to his court for the purpose of concerting the means of retrieving his authority had also made overtures to other states. But after opening a negotiation with Colonel Palmer he had suddenly reconciled himself with Sindh and broke off the negotiations with a formal refusal of acceding to the terms proposed to him. I remarked that the present disposition of the Peshwa is wholly different from that in which he had called for the mission of ministers and which the Raja supposed when he resolved to depute them. The understandings of his temper render it not improbable that he may hereafter resume his former intention but until such a change take place and intelligence of it be actually received it would not be expedient that the ministers should proceed on their journey. I called the Raja's attention to the answer I had yesterday given to the question he then asked. That answer was made with a knowledge of your Lordship's sentiments on the expected application from the Peshwa. He has now made that application and receded from it. Though we may infer from your Lordship's generosity that you will not resent the Peshwa's conduct if he should resume sentiments conformable to those of the allies yet I could not now take upon me to authorise the ministers to make such answers to the Peshwa's questions as had been proposed to me at the three audiences. For all this I offered it as a suggestion that the ministers' visit should be postponed until intelligence be received of a change in the Peshwa's disposition and until your Lordship's sentiments were known.

The Raja said that he found it necessary to deliberate on the advice given by me and would invite me to an interview one or two days hence for the purpose of communicating the result of his deliberations. He added compliments and general professions. I shall lose no time in reporting to your Lordship, by express the Raja's answer to these representations but I hardly doubt that he will consent to the proposed delay in departure of the ministers.

Letter No 17—The letter is mutilated and at places indistinct. It reports that the Bhonsla had expressed his intention of postponing the proposed mission to Poona and that Narain Rao the Vakeel of the late Nana Fadnavis was to return to Poona to report to the Peshwa that owing to a close understanding between the Peshwa and Dowlat Rao the intended mission was postponed.

FROM—H COLEBROOKE RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

TO—MARQUIS WELLESLEY GOVERNOR GENERAL

Nagpur 27th October 1800

The Raja of Berar announced to me at an interview yesterday evening his intention of postponing the mission of his ministers to Poona.

Narain Rao who came to this place as Vakeel on the part of the late Nana Furnavese and who has acted for some time past as Vakeel now proceeds to Poona and will inform His Highness the Peshwa that compliance with his requisition is delayed on account of recent offers of a close understanding with Dowlat Rao Sindia that the mission could not be safely undertaken when such is the indisposition of his Court and it is therefore postponed until better grounds for confidence are furnished. The Raja of Berar will send a confidential person to Hyderabad also, for the purpose of announcing and explaining this step.

2 As I could not suggest to the Raja a better mode of retracting his promise of complying with the Peshwa's requisition, I acquiesced in this expedient and Narain Rao who was introduced to me by the Raja of Berar on his first arrival was sent for, that we might take leave of each other previously to his departure.

3 Being informed by Captain Kirkpatrick to whom I am at all times much beholden and especially on the present occasion for full and early intelligence of transactions with which it is necessary I should be made acquainted that the Nizam has expressed to this court in very strong terms his pointed disapprobation of the measures of sending the ministers to Poona. I ascribed the present retraction of the measure to the opposition of the Court of Hyderabad no less than to the remonstrances made by me to Shridhar Pundit in a conversation with my Moonshee some days ago, informed of the decided opposition of Azim-ul-Omrah of his mission to Poona, and attributed my remonstrances to the suggestions of that minister. I have not thought it necessary to use any endeavours to remove this impression, but simply to avoid confirming it.

4 Shridhar being thrown off his guard in that conversation manifested much resentment against Azim-ul-Omrah who seeks, he said, to embroil the different powers of the Deccan, and whose short-sighted policy always brings disgrace on himself and on His Highness the Nizam. Recollecting himself Shridhar entreated that these unguarded expressions should not be communicated but I think it necessary to report them to your Lordship because they may be considered as some indications of the resentments of this court towards Azim-ul-Omrah, I must add that no such sentiments towards the Nizam have ever been manifested. On the contrary he was on this as on all other occasions named with reverence and affection.

5 In the formal conversation with my Moonshee, which I have just now mentioned, Shridhar conjured me to make known the real motives of my remonstrance and what ill consequences I apprehended from his mission to Poona. The friendship which has always subsisted between the Company and the Raja of Berar has been daily increasing. No deficiency has appeared on either side nor ever will. The Raja of Berar remains and will ever remain firm in his attachment to the Company. It is not possible he should recede from the solemn promises he has made, or betray the design which have been entrusted to him (alluding I suppose to the projected defensive alliance against Sindia). Shridhar offered that the Raja's sincerity should be approved by any oath or test that may be required of him. The cordial and ingenious sentiments of the two Governments form, he said, a stronger pledge than the most solemn treaty for verbal promises have so often repeated that there can be no room left for doubt or apprehension. He then launched as if into praises of the faithfulness and sincerity of the British Government and affirmed the truth and sincerity of this court.

6 He proceeded to remark, that there are four powers in the Deccan the Company Nizam Peshwa and Raja of Berar that cordiality among these powers ought to be preserved and mutual support should be afforded. If any disagreement arise between two of them the others should use means of conciliation. In the present circumstances all should unite to re-establish the authority of the Peshwa. It is the wish of the British Government as well as of this Court to do so and therefore when Bajee Rao wrote to the Raja of Berar with his own hands desiring confidential persons to be sent to his Court the Raja complied with the request and communicated it to me because it was his intention to negotiate for the accomplishment of your Lordship's views at Poona and by convincing the Peshwa and satisfying him that aid would be duly afforded him, he hoped to lead him into the right path so that the thorn should be reduced to its proper place and the rose holds its proper station.

7 As for Sindia the Raja of Berar regards him not for he is a servant of the empire of which the Raja of Berar is a member. If he prosecutes evil designs the Raja of Berar will cheerfully step forward and strike the first blow against him confident that the British Government will afford succour when requested by him in the moment of need. For indeed is it from the Raja to entertain views and designs other than those he avails Shridhar there expatiated on the importance of re-establishing Peshwa's authority and on the Raja's ability to contribute greatly to the attainment of that object. He concluded by saying that the Raja of Berar has nothing more at hand than to manifest by essential services the sincerity of his friendship for the British Government.

8 Yesterday at the audience which the Raja gave me Shridhar opened the conversation by acknowledging that appearances warranted the opinion of a change in Bajee Rao's sentiments regarding Sindia. He believed, however, that the Peshwa was not sincerely reconciled to Dowlat Rao. They then should I disapprove of his proceeding with his colleague to Poona the Peshwa's real sentiments would be fully ascertained. If they were found to be such as he believed them, or if the Peshwa even though now reconciled should be again disgusted by Sindia's conduct before the ministers reach their destination their mission would be productive of great benefit. It could not be expected to produce ill consequence even though Bajee Rao should be found in the disposition I ascribed to him unless the Raja of Berar's sincerity or his faithfulness be distrusted. He asked therefore what were my real motives for advising the mission to be recalled.

9 In answer I disclaimed any doubt of the Raja's fidelity and truth but insisted on the necessity of previous concert. It is for this reason expedient to postpone the mission until it can be expected that it should contribute to the accomplishment of the plans concerning the allies. At present it could always contribute to that desirable end. If Bajee Rao's disposition should be found to be really different from what present appearances to be the ministers would still find it necessary to consult the other states before they opened negotiations. Else if each ally pursue separate designs and carry on separate negotiations no success can follow distracted counsels.

10 The conversation was prolonged without any new argument being adduced. Shridhar continued that the mission would be harmless at least if it should not be useful. On the other part I continued to urge the necessity of your Lordship's sentiments being previously known. At length the Raja communicated to me his intention of postponing the mission and sending the Court of Poona the message mentioned in the

first paragraph of this letter In the course of the conversation which passed, Shridhar asked what measures would be adopted by the British Government and Nizam in case of any overt act on the part of Peshwa and Sindia whose counsels are now supposed to be united Perceiving from this question and from the tenor of his conversation on the other points, that the Court of Berar apprehends a wide breach, or even immediate hostilities between the Company and Peshwa should any aggression be now threatened by Sindia, I endeavoured to obviate this ill-founded apprehension by replying that an adverse act that is an aggression on the part of the British was so improbable, so absolutely incredible that it was needless to anticipate and consult upon that which cannot happen With regard to aggression on the part of Dowlat Rao it is doubtless expedient to be prepared to repel them

11 Shridhar remarked that a rumour prevails of Sindia soon(?) taking field It is probable however that no aggression is now intended by him His sole object at present is to reduce the (torn) of M , Sundeia who is openly or secretly abetted in her opposition to him by most of his own Chieftains I admitted the possibility that she may be the object which at present chiefly engages him But vigilance and concert will nevertheless be as highly expedient as in any former period

12 The Raja requested me to give him early intelligence whenever anything should be determined in regard to further negotiations with the Peshwa or otherwise I readily promised to do so adding that the earliest intelligence of all important transactions was always communicated to him Shridhar at other periods of the conversation, introduced strong professions of the Raja's sincerity in his friendship for British Government

13 After the business of the audience was closed, Shridhar asked me as if enquiring news, whether the troops under the command of the Hon'ble Colonel Wellesley have returned to Shrirangapatam I told him I had not received any intelligence from that quarter, since the troops so gallantly executed the service on which they were sent They would probably return to their cantonments after a few halts on the frontier of Mysore to refresh the troops from the fatigues of the campaign

14 I have detailed the conversation and Shridhar's communications to my Moonshee, more fully than was required by any importance that attaches to his communications, because your Lordship may perhaps be thence enabled to judge how far *confidence can be placed* in the sincerity and steadiness of this court For reasons which I had the honour to state in my last dispatches, I believe that this court is not insincere I suspect indeed that means have been found to insinuate notions of Azim-ul-Dowrah's entertaining a greater animosity against Sindia than has been provoked on his part (torn) hostilities against him and against the Peshwa if he countenance (torn) are meditated But it is not likely that the Raja of Berar should have not a willing ear to such insinuations nor that Sindia and the Peshwa could by any artifice induce the Raja to enter into a combination with them against the Company and the Nizam should the ministers hereafter proceed to Poona with your Lordship's approbation, they would probably use all their endeavours to persuade the Peshwa to put himself under the protection of the British Government It is possible that such advice, coming from this court might have some effect on the Peshwa's mind, and might therefore contribute to the success of your Lordship's future negotiations with the court of Poona

15 On the subject of the important points which your Lordship wishes to carry at the court of Nagpur I think it necessary to observe, that there does not seem to be at this moment a near prospect of success. I have hitherto looked for a fit opportunity of sounding this court on the subject of the cession of Cuttack when the final adjustment of all boundaries questions shall be agitated or when security for the punctual payment of a subsidy shall be required from the Raja of Berar. To make the offer of a permanent subsidiary force I have waited for the occasion of announcing the conclusion of the treaty to which he has promised to accede or for intelligence that immediate aggressions are apprehended by him from Sindia. Whatever apprehensions he may have formerly entertained on this point but whether they have been removed by the increased embarrassment of the Sindia's Government or by explanations from that Chieftain it is now certain that the Raja of Berar apprehends no principal danger. The latest intelligence received from Captain Kirkpatrick leads me daily to expect information that the treaty of alliance has been concluded at Hyderabad and I cannot now hope the Raja of Berar will immediately accede with eagerness to it. I apprehend on the contrary that he will employ the Peshwa's late invitation to him to assist with his advice in arranging the affairs of Mahratta Empire as a plea for procrastination.

Letter No 18—Colebrooke reports that he had received and communicated to Raghohi the news that a treaty of subsidiary alliance had been concluded at Hyderabad. He reports the reactions of the Nagpur Court briefly in the last paragraph of the letter which is given below.

FROM—H COLEBROOKE RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

TO—MARQUIS WELLSLEY GOVERNOR GENERAL.

Nagpur 1st November 1800

On the first instant I had the pleasure to receive from Captain Kirkpatrick the important intelligence that the treaty of general alliance has been finally concluded at Hyderabad. The Raja of Berar had previously proceeded on an excursion to divers places of worship in the neighbourhood from which he returned to Nagpur on the 9th instant. The next morning I notified to him the conclusion of the Treaty by a message to Shreedhar Puadit. This Minister solicited with some earnestness the immediate communication of it and I afterwards found that either a translation or an abstract of it in the Hindi language has been already received.

2 For the sake of obtaining through intercourse with the Minister as much information as possible previous to the formal communication of the Treaty I had pre-determined to allow Shridhar a private perusal of the chief articles. Accordingly my Moonshee repeated his visit in the evening of the same day carrying a copy of the 1st 2nd 15th 16th 18th 19th and 20th articles with the Preamble. He was instructed to draw Shridhar's particular attention to the conciliatory disposition manifested by the contracting parties so different from the views which that Minister had ascribed to Ameerul Omrah in a former conversation.

3 In answer to enquiries concerning the 3rd and following articles, my Moonshee informed him that they relate to arrangements between the Nizam and Company for the augmentation of the subsidiary force and for the assignment of territory equivalent to the subsidy as the Raja of Berar is not directly interested in these arrangements the immediate communication of them was deemed unnecessary. From the reply made by Shridhar

it is likely that the Raja of Berar will request the communication of these articles also For this reason and not being aware of any objection to it I propose to communicate the treaty itself without waiting for that request at an audience from the Raja, which is fixed for the 15th instant

4 From the report I have received from my Moonshee of a further interview with Shreedhar Pundit yesterday evening and of what part the preceding day I learn that the design of deputing the Ministers to Poona is not finally abandoned and that some propositions on this subject will be made to me to be submitted to your Lordship I perceive also that serious apprehensions are entertained by this Court (partly in consequence of recent suggestions from Poona) as to the situation in which all the members of the Mahratta Empire will be placed if they do not accede to the alliance concluded between the Company and Nizam At the same time the Raja of Berar seems to be at present unwilling to accede to it unless in concert with the Peshwa He retains the opinion that Bajee Rao is not really averse from British alliance and he consequently hopes to arrange a joint treaty with the Company and not to be reduced to the necessity of concluding a separate one, and thereby giving offence to his feudal super or

Letter No 19.—Colebrooke reports his discussions with Shridhar Pandit on the recently concluded treaty with the Nizam The attitude of the Bhonsla is not to adopt this treaty as the basis of the treaty between him and the Peshwa on the one hand and the Company on the other. Shridhar Pandit draws the attention of Colebrooke to the information that he had received of warlike preparations at Hyderabad, and massing of troops on the frontier adjoining Bhonsla's territories He suggests that a treaty might be concluded between the Company and the Peshwa through Raghon's interposition Colebrooke feels disappointed, and indicates how this change in the attitude of the Nagpur Court has come about.

FROM—H COLEBROOKE, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

TO—MARQUIS WELLESLEY, GOVERNOR-GENERAL

Nagpur, the 16th November 1800

Agreeably to the appointment noticed in my address to your Lordship under date of 12th instant, I attended the Raja of Berar yesterday evening and had a private audience at which his son, brother and ministers were present Shridhar Pundit had previously returned the extract from the Treaty of Hyderabad for the purpose of its being communicated to the Raja I thought it unnecessary to present a copy of the Treaty at large, but delivered to the Raja the extract above mentioned At the same time I observed to him, that it contained the chief articles of the treaty recently concluded on (indistinct) for the ends, I had already intimated to him at various occasions and that permanent tranquility and uniform harmony and good will be the happy fruit of this general alliance of which this treaty is calculated to be the basis

2 The several articles were read and interpreted to the Raja by Shridhar Pundit and request was made, which I could not refuse, for the communication of the remaining articles of the treaty from the 14th on another day The Raja himself expressed congratulations on the present happy event, and Shridhar then informed me by the Raja's directions, that he was instructed to converse with me on points of great delicacy, which would be best discussed in the presence of fewer persons Having acquiesced in this suggestion, I retired with Shridhar and Kishan Rao to an adjoining room

3 Shridhar introduced the topics of this private interview by mentioning the relation in which the Raja stands as a friend or as ally of all the powers of the Deccan the Company Peshwa and Nizam. He did not include Sindia among the powers of Hindoostan because he considered him as a servant only of the Peshwa not as an independent chieftain. He adverted to the diverse uses of the treaty as indication of an alliance offensive as well as defensive. The identity of the two powers the Company and Nizam as mentioned in the preamble and the explanatory clauses of the 2nd article were particularly noticed by him. He hinted at former transactions and observed that any misunderstanding between the Nizam and Peshwa or Nizam and Raja of Berar such as formerly has occurred and possibly may again occur through the hasty proceedings and temporary irritation sometimes of one sometimes of the other party might now interrupt the harmony subsisting between the Company and Peshwa or Raja of Berar. He asked whether future negotiations with this Court and that of Poona were subordinate to those with the Court of Hyderabad and subject to the control of intermediate consultation with the Ministers of His Highness the Nizam. He said the welfare of the several Mahratta powers was now in my hands that it was in my power to become the channel of cementing a close alliance between the Company and Mahrattas.

4 During the discourse of which brief abstract has been here submitted to your Lordship I manifested the importance of the suggestion that the treaty covers the engagements of an offensive alliance and that His Highness the Nizam's Government is now assuming a menacing attitude. I did not however interrupt Shridhar but when he had concluded I began my reply by treating the intelligence said to have been received from Hyderabad as the idle communication of mis-informed persons. I appealed to the whole tenor of the treaty for proof that the alliance was truly defensive and I pointed out the various passages in it which manifest the real disposition of the contracting parties and which fully provide against the possibility of such consequences arising from it as he had suggested. I endeavoured both by distant hints and by a direct question to draw from him a more explicit communication of the intimations said to have been received from the Diwan and Sindia. This he evaded and without using the opening I gave him for the mention of what else he might be instructed to say, he repeated the proposition that I should report to your Lordship what had now passed.

5 It was not fit your Lordship should be made acquainted with the groundless apprehensions which had been entertained and the futility of which I again remarked to him and enforced by various topics. In his answer he desired me to consider myself as fully delegated by the Raja of Berar and to communicate so much of what had past as should appear best adapted to the object of the communication. I replied that the object of it was not yet intelligible to me and I requested him to state it explicitly. He rejoined that supposing a case of private life should two of four friends combine without cause against the third what must be the situation of the fourth who is anxious to preserve the friendship of all. I instantly exclaimed against the insinuation and with emphasis declared the scope and object of the alliance to be exactly opposite of what was now insinuated by him. The design of it was to promote and maintain universal tranquillity by a general alliance of all the powers of Hindoostan and the Deccan accompanied by the adjustment of every matter which had been or could probably become cause of interrupting general harmony.

6 Shridhar and Kisban Rao expressed great joy and satisfaction at this declaration and proposed our immediate action to the apartment where the Raja was sitting. Shridhar then read his report of the convention and

the Raja after hearing it expressed great satisfaction also and turning to me said that he made me the depository of his most secret thought implicitly my discretion. He then launched out into praises of the British nation and paid many compliments to your Lordship after reciprocal compliments, which were indeed more than usually profuse throughout the whole of the interview. I closed the business of it by requesting that after the articles of the treaty and the 18th in particular should have been sufficiently considered, the Raja would be pleased to make known to me his sentiments on the clause which expressly concerns him.

7 Since the foregoing paragraphs of this address were written, I have received a hint from Shridhar Pundit, through my Moonshee, from whom he invited a visit this forenoon, that the offer of the Raja of Berar's interposition will be forthwith renewed. He still insists that aggressions mediated by the Court of Hyderabad against Peshwa and even against the Raja of Berar. He asks why I decline reporting to your Lordship the passages of yesterday's interview and offers to communicate the letters by which the Raja of Berar is authorised by the Peshwa to tender his interposition. He adds that formal letters to that effect are daily expected from Poona and I early indicate the wish of the Raja of Berar to negotiate on his own part and on that of the Peshwa a treaty with the Company in which Sindia shall be comprehended. It is apparent also that either he or the Peshwa is averse from taking the recent treaty of Hyderabad for the basis of the negotiating they wish to open.

8 This intimation was not received by my Moonshee as a formal message. He recommended that the articles of the treaty should be again considered. The Raja of Berar would find sufficient evidence in the very terms of the treaty that his fear of aggression on the part of the Court of Hyderabad were groundless and would also find there the fittest opening for negotiation with the British Government, as had been already hinted to the Raja by me, at the close of the interview yesterday. Shridhar consented to reconsider the matter before the message should be delivered to me.

9 As I cannot put a direct refusal on the request to make known to your Lordship the Raja's offer of interposition, I shall be ultimately under the necessity of consenting to do so. In the meantime I beg leave to submit to your Lordship's consideration some observations on the past conduct of this Court. During the whole of last winter the solicitude of the Raja of Berar for the British Alliance was extreme, the Raja or his Ministers daily enquired whether I was authorized to proceed in the negotiation and continued to do so almost until the moment when I made overtures for the renewal of it in the month of May last. Those overtures were received with great complacency and the ministers more than once proposed that the project of a treaty should be immediately drawn out. During the whole of this period and until the commencement of last month, and even to a later period the Court was openly and avowedly inveterate against Sindia, and unreserved in applauding the projected alliances to which it was ready to accede to which, in the figurative language here employed it had already acceded from the time, when reconciliation took place between the Peshwa and Sindia. The sentiments of this Court have undergone a change which has been gradually developed. By what means a similar reconciliation between Sindia and the Raja of Berar has been effected, I can only conjecture. The Peshwa has certainly been the channel of it and the Raja's views have been altered from the moment when Sindia seriously prepared for quitting Poona and the Peshwa declared himself satisfied with the near prospect of being left to the free exercise of his legitimate authority, the Raja's persisting in the design deputing his Ministers to Poona after such a

change in the politics of that court although the design was formed in circumstances wholly different and his present offer of interposition on the part of the Peshwa indicate some participation in the counsels of the Court of Poona. Yet there is no reason to suspect him of participating in designs inimical to the interests of the British Government and its allies. He is blinded by the prospect of exaltation as the mediator of treaty of alliance between the Peshwa and the Company. In the contemplation of this prospect he has become as tender of the interests of Hindia as he professes to be of the interests of those powers to which he tenders his interposition and he has listened more readily than was credible to the suggestion that hostile views are entertained by the Court of Hyderabad. During the last week the consultations of this court so far as I obtain information of them and even Minister Shridhar's communications to my Moonshee exhibits an incoherence which shows the Raja of Berar to be confused and unable to resolve on the part he should take in regard to the alliance offered to him. It is even agitated to reinforce the troops on the Raja's frontiers towards the dominions of the Nizam and the information I have received on this subject is sufficiently authentic for me to ground on it an unofficial expostulation which I have accordingly instructed my Moonshee to make at his next interview with Shridhar Pundit. I shall also give this court an opportunity of explaining if possible the total inconsistency of its present conduct with its past professions continually made and repeated until the moment when the conclusion of the new treaty of alliance was formally announced.

Letter No. 20 — Colebrooke reports that Raghoji will not accede to the treaty of Hyderabad. He is however willing to help the Peshwa for forming another treaty with the Company.

FROM—H COLEBROOKE RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

TO—MARQUIS WELLSLEY GOVERNOR GEN'L

Nagpur the 20th November 1800

In answer to the unofficial expostulations made by my Moonshee conformably with the instructions mentioned in my last address to your Lordship Shridhar Pundit has acknowledged that the measures of augmenting the forces on the Raja's southern frontier has been agitated. In the midst of alarms many suggestions he said become the subject of deliberation but in this matter the Raja will act according to what I shall say notwithstanding this which indeed is but an ambiguous assurance. I do not find that the measure is certainly abandoned. I shall therefore make formal remonstrance should there be any further appearance of a movement of these troops.

2 Having cause for believing that the Raja has been expected to meet the Peshwa and Sindia at Tryembee Basee on the Bank of Godawari I had directed my Moonshee to sound the intention of this Court. From Shridhar's conversation when this subject was hinted it appears almost certain that though an invitation has been received but the Raja has no present intention of accepting it.

3 In the course of subsequent conversations Shridhar observed the topics which were discussed at the last audience with which I was honoured by the Raja and desired my Moonshee to deliver message not so formal as that proposal by him at last interview but soliciting me with earnestness not to decline reporting to your Lordship what passed at my interview with the Raja on the 15th instant.

4 For reasons which I shall have the honour to state in the sequel of this address I sent my Moonshee yesterday evening to Shridhar with written instructions to make the following answers on my part To my own thinking I have already obviated the doubts and apprehensions which were stated and have left no room for the continuance of them, to retain such doubts and suspicions is wrong As to the other object which was mentioned, I have not refused to report it But since there is no misunderstanding between the Raja and His Highness the Peshwa and on the contrary good will towards him has been most fully evinced, I hinted the enquiry what is the object of the interposition thus tendered and there the subject was dropped on your side

5 Shridhar desired permission to make known this advantage to the Raja in the words in which it was delivered to him My Moonshee having waited on the Raja this morning at his tents found that it had been communicated to him and that he now seems satisfied with the assurances of his apprehensions being groundless and unsubstantiated with the expectation that this offer of interposition will be reported to your Lordship and he declared himself confident it will be favourably received He made strong professions of attachment to the Company and of his desire to cultivate the friendship with the British Government and to render essential services to the Company He said if the Peshwa should aggress he himself would be the foremost in opposing such aggressions by force His whole army he said would in that case be at my disposal In short if there were not too many reasons for distrust, his professions are so strong that a favourable opinion of his uniform sincerity might be resumed

6 As the avowed partizan of the late Nana Furnaveese the Raja of Berar was certainly heretofore inimical to Dowlat Rao Sindia So long as he dreaded that Chieftain's resentment and his ascendancy in the Mahratta Empire, the Raja of Berar was really solicitous for the protection of the British Government and would have been willing to make concessions in return for it He hoped to earn it with few or even without any concessions when the Peshwa's recourse opened to him new prospects to his view Since the unexpected reconciliation of the Peshwa and Sindia and the consequent preparations of the last mentioned Chief for returning to Hindoostan he is entirely relieved from apprehensions Sindia's animosity and (indistinct) cordial union can probably take place between this court and Dowlat Rao yet the Raja of Berar has been induced to enter into the Peshwa's present views of (indistinct) him from the immediate resentment of the British Government and His Highness the Peshwa, perhaps for the sake of producing a supposed counterpoise to the British Power It is probable that these sentiments were not entertained by him much earlier than the commencement of the current month and that he had (indistinct) intelligence above three (indistinct) that a reconciliation had been planned between the Peshwa and Dowlat Rao was likely to do so In the interim he wavered and it is impossible to acquit him wholly of insincerity in his conduct during that interval The professions then made were so consonant to the former disposition of this court that I did not sufficiently distrust them, but it may be doubted whether the promises at that time tendered were even intended to be kept

7 It seems now evident that the Raja will not accede to the treaty recently concluded at Hyderabad and that his object in wishing to negotiate on a different basis in concert with the Peshwa is to avoid on his own part and on that of the Peshwa concessions by which the power of the Mahrattas in general might be lessened At the same time he possibly looks to his own exaltation as a mediator between the greatest power of India and even hopes to ingratiate himself in that capacity with both

parties. Conceiving this to be really the present disposition of the Court of Nagpur, I apprehend that by making further difficulty of reporting to your Lordship the Raja's (indistinct) of interposition, I should accelerate rather than retard his intentions towards a close union with the Court of Poona. To avoid the consequences and for the purpose of reminding him that your Lordship has evinced a zealously (indistinct) disposition towards the Peshwa and that no differences (indistinct) the British Government (indistinct) Court of Poona I sent (indistinct) stated in the fourth paragraph of this address.

8 While the Raja's proposal is thus kept in suspension there is room for the possible recurrence of circumstance which may estrange him from a confederation with other Mahratta powers before this seemingly discordant union be consolidated. Meanwhile our influence at this Court is preserved which may be exerted to prevent the adoption of obnoxious measures such as the actual mission of the Ministers to Poona the Raja's proceeding to meet Bajee Rao and Sindia on the Godawary and especially his assembling troops on his Southern frontier.

9 Unless impelled by motives of necessity the Raja of Berar cannot be long cordially united with the Court of Poona because he is even secretly impatient of feudal subordination to the Peshwa. So lately as this morning in his message which the Raja desired should be delivered verbatim to me by my Moonshee he said whether I be considered as the kinsman the servant or the slave of the Raja of Satara it is on account of the relation in which I stand to Sao Rajah whatever that be that I am interested for the Peshwa. He writes to me that he commits himself to my guidance as to that of a brother. Now my objects are the same with those of the British Government namely that general tranquillity be preserved whilst no injustice is committed. If then the Peshwa should aggress my army will be at your disposal.

10 Considering the mutual jealousy that subsists among all the Mahratta powers it is not even now impossible that if your Lordship should think it expedient to encourage the Raja's offer of interposition he may side with the British Government rather than with the Peshwa in the progress of negotiation and that for the same reason which rendered it credible that the Raja's ministers had they gone to Poona would have taken part with the British Government in negotiations there. The reason here alluded to is the wish which the Raja of Berar probably entertains of ingratiating himself with all parties and especially with the British Government that he may revert more safely to his ancient policy of maintaining relations of amity with all while he forms no permanent strict alliance with any power.

Letter No. 21.—Colebrooke reports the vacillating attitude of Raghoji for a treaty. He had informed Raghoji that the Peshwa was unwilling to have him as a party to any treaty that the Peshwa intends to conclude with the British Government. Colebrooke had written to Raghoji fixing a definite time limit for his decision about the proposed treaty.

FROM—H COLEBROOKE RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

TO—THE MARQUIS WELLESLEY GOVERNOR GENERAL

Nagpur the 20th December 1800

The information I receive through various channels is so contradictory that I cannot state it to your Lordship with any confidence as a ground for judging of the present disposition of this Court. Intelligence,

on the authenticity of which I can place most reliance, only proves that the counsels of the Raja of Berar fluctuate and that measures of the most opposite tendency become alternately the subjects of deliberation. In a late despatch dated the 5th instant, I had the honour to mention to your Lordship, that the Raja was supposed to entertain thoughts of resuming the design of an alliance with the British Government. Four days ago Shridhar Pundit sent a message by my Moonshee, which seemed to demonstrate, that the information was not groundless.

2 He mentioned a rumour that I was holding myself in readiness to proceed to Hindoostan, he conjured me not to think of doing so. If I expected my recall, the Raja would immediately write to your Lordship to solicit my continuance at his Court. Perhaps the delays that have occurred, may have occasioned dissatisfaction but the Raja as he said resolved (though further delay may yet interfere) that I should not take my leave without having succeeded in my mission. I have not thought it necessary to contradict the rumour mentioned by Shridhar, otherwise than by saying that I do not know of any sufficient foundation for it, my Moonshee had already observed to him, when receiving his message that excessive delay was doubtless unsatisfactory.

3 I have stated this message to your Lordship, simply because it conveys a seeming confirmation of the notion, that the Raja has it still in contemplation to enter into engagements with your Lordship. On the other hand I have credible information that he has very lately deliberated on the measure of proceeding in person to Poona in consequence of reiterated summons from the Peshwa. A few days before he was said to be much disgusted by an intimation from Bajee Rao that pecuniary contributions are expected from the same quarter, that he is distrusted and suspected of duplicity in his conduct.

4 Unwilling that the Peshwa's refusal of admitting him as a principal in any Treaty of alliance in which His Highness may be a contracting party should remain longer unknown to the Raja of Berar. I obtained audience on the 16th instant and began by requesting the communication to the Raja's sentiments on the conclusion of the recent Treaty of Hyderabad, which concerns him. He replied that message (of the 20th ultimo) the purport of which he now repeated (indistinct) solemn engagement amounted to be a part to the obligations of a (indistinct) his whole army would be at your Lordship's disposal in case of invasions. This promise which he should strictly fulfil was, he said consequent to a Treaty.

5 As it was not my immediate object to press for a definite answer, I considered this (indistinct) only and reserving to myself (indistinct) remarks on it the next day (indistinct) that written engagements the terms of which shall have been deliberately weighed by both parties, and which shall specify all reciprocal objections are indispensable. Else the extent of a promise and the complete or imperfect fulfilment of it must become the occasion of future controversy.

6 In reply the Raja acknowledged, that written documents obviate disputes. But previously to the further consideration of this subject, he requested a copy of the treaty of Salbey, to which he is by implication a party. I readily agreed to furnish the copy requested by him.

7 I then proceeded to remark that the Raja perhaps postponed according to the Treaty of Hyderabad wishing to learn previously what the Peshwa who is named in the same clause of it finally determines in regard to the option given to him. That I knew before hand what His Highness the Peshwa's determination would be, and that I found it necessary to acquaint the Raja with the circumstance, from which I anticipated

the Peshwa's (indistinct) It was a matter of almost equal delicacy to communicate or suppress it but it was no longer possible to let him remain ignorant of what it was absolutely necessary he should know I then informed him that in consequence of his declared willingness to enter into an alliance such as have been offered to him Colonel Palmer had proposed in his negotiations with the Peshwa a clause similar to that which the Raja had perused in the recent Treaty of Hyderabad but Bajee Rao declared he would not accede to a Treaty in which the Raja of Berar was to be admitted as a principal because the Raja is subordinate to him and stands in the relation of a subject

8 The Raja replied that he is not subject to the Peshwa a servant like him of the Raja of Sattara He thanked me for making known this circumstance to him and added compliments to which I returned suitable answer

9 The next day I gave written instructions to my Moonshee to deliver a message in my name to Shridhar Pundit for the Raja The following is a literal translation of it

From the time of my arrival here it has been the intention of both parties and both have recognised it as expedient that a treaty should be adjusted, for this is considered as the means of strengthening the relations of friendship the bonds of union and participation in joy and sorrow Accordingly the Raja himself more than once declared in express terms that it must take place When the design was formed of adjusting a new Treaty at Hyderabad for the purpose of establishing a firm foundation of tranquillity peace and safety this was mentioned and from the mode in which the proposition was received it was certain that the Raja declared his accession to the plan Afterwards when a rumour prevailed that the Treaty was concluded being asked the purport of it I committed to writing and sent an abstract of the terms of the new Treaty This too deemed satisfactory and the Raja subsequently used to declare, he would accede to it Now the Raja says a verbal declaration should be received and equivalent to a Treaty and that is his answer I have not received it as a definitive answer and for this reason lest the Raja notwithstanding the firm friendship that should be charged with want of sincerity and be liable to reproaches It is necessary to tread the path of consistency and it is advisable to contemplate the benefits and good consequences of concert and strict union This merits deliberation A week hence I shall trouble him for his sentiments on the subject of the proposed Treaty of alliance

10 Trivial circumstances prevented this message being delivered until yesterday morning and the Raja having proceeded to a place of worship twenty coss distant has deferred answering it until his return from that excursion

Letter No 22 —Colebrooke suggests his withdrawal from the Court of Nagpur on the grounds that it would deprive Raghooji of the great prestige and advantage that he derives from the presence of a British Resident at his Court and by reason of which he will be helped in his ambitions without reciprocal advantage to the Company

FROM—H COLEBROOKE RESIDENT AT NAGPUR
TO—THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL

Nagpur the 21st January 1801

A few days ago I received information that the design of sending confidential ministers to Poona is certainly resumed by this Court and that a day for their departure will be appointed in the course of next week.

I have not learnt the precise objects of their mission nor the colour which will be put on this measure, when it is formally announced a few days hence. But I cannot doubt that Raghojee Bhonsla's whole aim is to effect the complete accommodation of all his differences with other Mahratta Powers that he the more securely pursue his ambitious policy without need of placing himself under the immediate protection of any one state.

I beg leave to suggest the expediency of recalling me from this Court. The Raja of Berar derives from the presence of a British Resident at his court the benefits of an actual alliance with the British Government without making any return for those benefits and without being bound by any engagements to the Company. The withdrawing of the Residency would deprive him of those advantages. It would diminish the efficacy of the menace which his ministers are instructed to hold out to the Court of Poona, and it must consequently accelerate those events, which may compel him to take refuge in an alliance with the Company.

5 The negotiations which were opened with him seem to be now virtually closed. Should your Lordship deem it expedient to recall me on this ground, either for the reasons which I have had the honour to suggest or upon any other considerations the Raja of Berar will find it necessary, immediately or else after the lapse of few months to make new overtures to your Lordship which may lead to the speedy arrangement of a treaty of alliance with him.

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7 These considerations indicate the expediency of the measure, which I have now had the honour to suggest. But if other circumstances render it uneligible, I beg leave to propose that I should be authorised to declare formally that the negotiation founded on the basis of the recent Treaty of Hyderabad is at an end. By thus weakening the Peshwa's confidence, that he will at any time be admitted by your Lordship to the benefits of an alliance with the British Government even after failing in his negotiations with the Court of Poona he may be forced to the immediate adoption of a less subtle policy.

8 Should your Lordship approve either of these suggestions I beg leave to solicit your early commands, because the mission of the Ministers to Poona with instructions such as are stated in the second paragraph of this address, is likely to take place early in the next month.

Letter No 23—Colebrooke reports that Bhonsla and Shridhar are concerting measures most probably for strengthening the Maratha Confederacy. Vyankoji one of the brothers of Raghoji has not been maintaining very happy relations with Raghoji and seeks the assistance of the British for the furtherance of his own interests. A fairly detailed account of the family relations of Bhonslas has been given.

FROM—H COLEBROOKE, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR,
TO—MARQUIS WELLESLEY, GOVERNOR-GENERAL

Nagpur, the 21st March 1801

Frequent intercourse between this Court and Sindia's Camp still continues and the long depending mission of Raja Raghojee's Ministers to Poona is now expected to take place in a few days. It cannot be doubted, that a chief object of these seeming negotiations is to concert the means of strengthening the Mahratta confederacy, but if this embrace any designs injurious to the Company's allies. I hope to obtain intelligence of them through a new channel of authentic information.

2 I have lately received several private messages from Vineajee Bhonsla brother of Raghojee Bhonsla requesting me to send a trusty person to receive a very important communication which he is desirous of making. The object of it has been partly opened by the messages received from him and his drift is sufficiently obvious but without intending to encourage an intriguing disposition which was indeed foreign from Vineajee's knowledge I have thought it advisable to comply because I may reasonably expect to receive information on the present views and designs of the Court of Nagpur.

3 No opportunity of receiving this communication has yet occurred but in the meantime I beg leave to inform your Lordship of Vineajee's views and intentions so far as they are yet known to me. To explain them it will be necessary to advert to remote transaction.

4 In the family of Bhonsla primogeniture is not acknowledged as conferring an exclusive right. The father and uncles of the present Raja of Berar shared but unequal proportions the dominions of the Bhonslas. After one of the brothers had perished in a Civil War the third retained an allotment in the Eastern part of the joint territories and the elder brother who had no issue adopted the son of Moodajee Bhonsla and thereby secured him cordial support. After the decease of the elder brother Moodajee Bhonsla partly in his own right partly as guardian of his own son administered the affairs of the state since his death Raghojee has been the efficient as well as nominal head of the family. Raghojee's second brother claimed equal partition of dominions but immediately after settling up this claim died. Suddenly Vineajee succeeded by the death of his brother and by that of his uncle to the whole allotment enjoyed by them consisting of Cuttack and Chhattisgarh with the contingent districts held by tributary Rajas. This comprehends the whole of the territories which borders on any part of the Company's dominions.

5 Raja Raghojee Bhonsla apprehensive of Vineajee's asserting independence and pursuing separate interests detains him at his own court under the semblance of fraternal affection but in fact enmity subsists between the brothers. Raghojee's veneration for his mother enables her to employ her influence to maintain the appearance of concord. But Vineajee bears with patience detention which prevented his holding a separate court and finally and fully enjoying his territorial allotment. He remembers with (indistinct) designs which his brother is suspected of having once entertained against the safety of his person.

6 So long as it appeared probable that the Raja of Berar would conclude a Treaty of alliance with the Company Vineajee looked to that alliance for the foundation of his own security. If the influence of the British Government were established at this Court he naturally judged that it would be restraint on Raja Raghojee Bhonsla sufficient to prevent any gross injustice or act of violence. On these similar considerations he showed himself zealous to promote the measure.

7 Disappointed in this expectation he now reflects on the precariousness of his own safety dependent as it appears to be on the duration of his mother's life. He also contemplates the hopeless state in which he would leave his infant son should any accidents happen to himself. He has therefore turned his eyes towards the British Government as the only quarter whence he can hope for protection.

8 The extent of his views is not yet known to me whether he is desirous of immediate support in the assertion of his right or only wishes the assurance of protection in certain contingent events is doubtful and

questionable also whether his own interest are the only grounds of his overtures or whether he proposes to allege reasons which may demonstrate the justice as well as policy of interference on the part of the British Government in a domestic difference. The last message received from him contains a hint, that he waits for the occurrence of an event, which when made known will render his propositions more acceptable. It has appeared to me advisable not to decline this communication offered by him, both for the reason mentioned in the beginning of this address and because it may be thought expedient by your Lordship to give him effectual support in the possible case of the Raja of Berar's hereafter concurring with the Peshwa and Sindia in designs adverse to the rights and interest of the Company and its allies.

Letter No. 24.—It is an important letter in which Colebrooke reports the possibility of a meeting of all the members of the Maratha Confederacy to concert measures against the Company.

FROM—H COLEBROOKE, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR,
TO—MARQUIS WELLESLEY, GOVERNOR-GENERAL

Nagpur, the 4th May 1801

It seems indubitable that the purpose for which a convention of Mahratta Chieftains has been summoned is to arrange a confederacy against the British Power, persons from whom I have accustomed to receive intelligence in which I put trust because, their confidential situations give them access to accurate information now spoken of the Peshwa's designs as completely manifested by the call of a convention and the Raja of Berar's privity to them as no longer susceptible of concealment after the receipt of a summon to attend that meeting. One of the persons here attended to is in the confidential employ of Vincajee Bhonsla, the other attached to the same prince but derives further means of information from the employments which he holds in the service of the Raja of Berar.

2 They acknowledge that the object of the convention is to concert measures against the British Government and affirms that the Peshwa has long harboured the same design and he dates it so far back as the fall of Tippoo Sultan. He says the project is now matured and the troops lately levied at Poona are intended for this very service. The other avers that the scheme includes a plan of inviting aid from the French and from Zemaun Shah. Both assert that its object is to extort from the British Government the cession of a part of the conquests made in Mysore and to screen Dowlat Rao Sindia from the effects of the resentment supposed to be excited solely by his entertaining French Officers in his service. They confirm what has been mentioned by other persons also, that the Mahratta Courts hope to detach the Nizam from his alliance with the Company, both hint that the Raja of Berar listens cheerfully to the Peshwa's overtures, but in answer to the direct question suggested by this hint, they employ only general terms. One saying that the Mahrattas are all of one mind, the other laid it out into regrets at the injunction of the Mahratta Chieftains to the question which the Raja of Berar will comply with the summons. The reply was not immediately sent. He will probably meet the (indistinct) of the Mahratta Chieftains on the banks of the Godavery under pretence of religion at a fair which will be held on the last day of August next.

3 The information of which the heads are here submitted to your Lordship corroborated in some circumstances by intelligence received through other channels. An intelligencer who receives wages from me has at late frequently brought accounts of conventions overheard regarding proposals made by the Mahrattas to the Nizam for a confederacy to wrest from the Company its acquisitions in Mysore. I have also received intelligence but which is not yet confirmed that an Agent sent by the Nizam with a secret commission unknown to Azim Ul Omra arrived here last week, has had a private audience of the Raja of Berar and still remains here in disguise.

4 As to the supposed cause of resentment on the part of the British Government against Dowlat Rao Sindia that notion has certainly been entertained even by this Court. An expression adopted by one of the Raja of Berar's Ministers was long ago reported to me which conveyed that it was unjust to dictate to any one what servants he should employ or to require him to dismiss from his service men of particular tribe or nation that may be displeasing to British power. This was spoken on the subject of the supposed misunderstanding between the British Government and Dowlat Rao Sindia.

5 But in regard to the Raja of Berar's alleged disposition to listen to the Peshwa's overtures it must be remarked that the same persons who now hint it have like others who speak of the views of this Court invariably affirmed it to be the Raja of Berar's policy to maintain appearances with all powers but unity with none and certainly there is no indication from any military preparations that the Raja has hitherto meditated taking part in an Arduous War.

6 Doubtless the Raja of Berar would view with no regret events that should re-establish a counterpoise against the British power in the East India. With hopes of this consequence he may be disposed not to discourage the Peshwa's projects but he himself probably intends to adopt the same conduct which this court observed during the last War between the Company and the Mahrattas preserving neutrality for which he would claim merit with both parties and by which he would hope to find himself after the close of the War better secured in his own independence.

Letter No 25 — Colebrooke reports how he had procured a copy of the Peshwa's letter to Raghoji through the treachery of one Mull yoddy (Maloji) in the service of the Bhonsla. Copy of the letter is also printed.

FROM—H COLEBROOKE RESIDENT AT NAGPUR,

TO—MARQUIS WELLESLEY GOVERNOR GENERAL.

Nagpur the 8th May 1801

Since I closed my dispatch of this date the treachery of a Mull yoddy has given me possession of an important document. It is a copy of the Peshwa's last letter to the Raja of Berar and I have the honour to enclose a translation of it.

2 I shall hereafter solicit permission to recommend to your Lordship's notice the person by whose address this document has been procured with a comparatively small expenditure of money on secret service. Translation of a letter from the Peshwa to the Raja of Berar copy of which was received from a Confidential Servant in Shridhar Pundit's office.

When confusion manifold and various prevailed here all that was written to require your attendance had no effect on you. In regard to deliver matters which you have represented by means of Narain Rao and subsequently, the case is, that on the subject of reconciling enmity and cementing union, between Shridhar and you a written message has been sent, and one will be again sent. It is therefore written to you that by no measure and on no account you should treat with the English for an alliance with them. For in a short time my object and musters will become the same. It is incumbent that, having settled your country, you repair to this place, for on your arrival and after consulting we will with all the Chieftains and with Moonshee aforesaid, fetch the ornament of the throne from Delhi and making him our leader face them and even take from them and share of the territory lately embezzled by them, but all these matters will be concerted after meeting. What more

(A True Translation)

NAGPUR.
8th May 1801

H COLEBROOKE, Resident

Letter No. 26.—Colebrooke reports the intentions of Vyankoji in betraying the secrets of state and plans of the Bhonsla Raghoji his brother.

FROM—H COLEBROOKE, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR,

TO—MARQUIS WELLESLEY, GOVERNOR-GENERAL

Nagpur, the 14th May 1801

Through the same channel, through which a copy of the Peshwa's summons to the Raja of Berar was obtained a copy of the draft of the Raja's answer has been since received. It is not, however, sufficiently authenticated as a copy of an answer actually dispatched. I shall therefore only state its purport, consisting in excuse for immediately complying with the summons and in a general promise of taking no step without the Peshwa's knowledge and consent.

2. Two days ago by Vincajee Bhonsla's desire my Moonshee met him as if by accident at a place of worship. In a very short conversation Vincajee hinted the insincerity of his brother in terms which could not be misunderstood, though he still withheld the communication of any positive fact or particular detail. After some pertinent observations, he proposed an effectual remedy, the admission of himself to the honour of a direct and frequent correspondence with your Lordship.

3. The whole tendency of this proposal will be readily perceived. Vincajee wishes to cultivate an understanding with the British Government. He will early solicit the countenance of your Lordship while he fixes his separate Court at Ruttanpur the capital of the provinces of which he has full possessions. The real and still more the seeming tendency of this to weaken the Raja of Berar would probably force Raghojee Bhonsla into a change of measures advantageous to the British Government. If it should not produce that effect, and the Raja of Berar should actually take part against the Company, Vincajee will then hope by siding with the Company against the Raja to obtain through the aid of the English, Cuttuck and other districts which he thinks himself entitled to claim in right of his deceased mother. Though such be the remote scope of the proposal, yet the admission of him to the honour of your Lordship's correspondence which is not unprecedented, would not necessarily involve the acknowledgment of him as an independent Chief.

I have therefore thought it advisable neither to reject nor accept the limited propositions stated in the preceding paragraph but again to press for the communication of facts and details as requisite to justify the proposal of a departure from present usage and Vinsajee's confidential Agent at the close of a very long conversation from which he just parted again promised to me a full disclosure

4 In the course of this conversation he confirmed but still without stating particulars, the information before received from him as reported in former dispatches addressed to Your Lordship. He added the remark that the Raja of Berar may be easily awed but the Peshwas and Sindia's inveterate enmity will finally compel the British Government to chastise them. Other observations of a similar importance would be uselessly reported in detail to Your Lordship as his promised communication if made by him will be more pertinent and the document which has been procured through a different channel furnishes more direct evidence than can be expected from him

Letter No 27 —The letter conveys approbation of the terms of the treaty concluded by General Wellesley with the Bhonsla and discusses problems of territorial adjustment connected with the Treaty

FROM—GOVERNOR GENERAL IN COUNCIL

TO—GENERAL WELLESLEY

Fort Wilsiam dated the 9th January 1804

Your dispatch dated the 17th of December 1803 enclosing the copy of a Treaty of Peace concluded by you on that date on the part of the Honourable Company with the Raja of Berar has been received and submitted to the Governor General in Council

2 The Governor General in Council has great satisfaction in communicating to you his high approbation of the terms of Peace concluded with the Raja of Berar which His Excellency in Council considers to be in the highest degree advantageous honourable and glorious to the British Government

3 The Governor General in Council discharges a satisfactory part of his duty in expressing to you the high sense which he entertains of the judgment and ability manifested by you on this occasion. The Governor General in Council considers you to have rendered an essential service to the interests of the Honourable Company and to have augmented the reputation of the British name by the conclusion of this advantageous and honorable Treaty

4 The Governor General in Council has this day ratified the Treaty of Peace with the Raja of Berar and the ratified copy will be immediately dispatched to the Resident at Hyderabad for the purpose of being transmitted to the Raja of Berar through Mr Elphinstone whom you have appointed to act in the capacity of Resident at that Chieftain's Court

5 The Governor General in Council now proceeds to state such observations as appear to be necessary on the several parts of your letter of the 13th December 1803 and on the articles of the Treaty

6 The Governor General in Council entirely approves the arrangement which provides for the exclusive ratification of the Treaty by the Governor General in Council. Instructions will be immediately issued to the Residents at Hyderabad and Poona directing them to communicate the Treaty respecting to their Highnesses the Soubadar of the Deccan and the Peshwa and to obtain their assent to the terms of it.

7 The designation of the cession under the Treaty, jointly to the British Government and its allies was extremely judicious and the Company's transfer of the whole of the ceded territory situated to the Westward of the River Wurda, to the authority of the Subedar of the Deccan, under the intimation which you proposed to convey to His Highness is entirely approved by the Governor-General in Council for the reasons stated in the 4th paragraph of your dispatch

8 The motives which induced you to confine the demand of territorial cessions on the Eastern side of the Raja of Berar's dominions, to the province of Cuttack under a distinct provision for the confirmation of all treaties which may have been concluded with the tributaries or feudatories of the Raja of Berar's Government, claim the entire approbation of the Governor-General in Council. The object of establishing a barrier to the frontier of Cuttack was not to be placed in competition with the superior advantage of securing the cession of the whole of the Territory west of the river Wurda, nor of sufficient importance to hazard the conclusion of the Treaty on the terms to which the Raja of Berar was disposed to accede and you judged very properly in taking into consideration the probability of the actual conclusion of the engagements between the British Government and the Chieftains occupying the territory contiguous to the Northern and Western frontier of Cuttack, by which that barrier would be established under the provisions of the 10th article of the Treaty. The record of the Government do not afford materials sufficient to enable the Governor-General in Council to specify the exact limits of the province of Cuttack proper, nor has the Governor-General received from the Commissioners for the affairs of Cuttack, the details of their negotiations with the Tributary Chieftains on the frontiers of that province. The commissioners have therefore been directed to communicate to you an accurate statement of the limits of the province to transmit to you copies of the engagements which may have been concluded with any of those tributary Chieftains and to apprise you of the progress of any depending negotiations with Chieftains of that description

9 It is not the wish of the Governor-General in Council to take advantage of the provision of that article for the purpose of reducing the extent of the Raja of Berar's dominion beyond the degree necessary to maintain the obligations of our public faith with those Chieftains who have solicited the protection of the British Government. On the other hand it is incumbent on the British Government to provide for the security of those Chieftains who have manifested a disposition to connect their interests with those of the Honourable Company, against the effects of the Raja of Berar's resentment

10 In cases in which the progress of the negotiation at the period of time when the Commissioners for the affairs of Cuttack received official intelligence of the conclusion of Peace with the Raja of Berar may have extended to the acceptance of proposals on the part of any of those Chieftains for the transfer of their allegiance to the British Government without the actual conclusion of reciprocal engagements, the Governor-General in Council is decidedly of opinion that the operation of the 10th article of the Treaty should be admitted

11 The Governor-General in Council accordingly directs that in specifying the names of those Chieftains who are to be admitted to the benefit of the provisions of the 10th article of the Treaty you will be regulated by the application of the principles above stated to the communications which you will receive from the Commissioners for the Affairs of Cuttack with respect to the state of their negotiations with the Tributary Chieftains on the frontier of that province

12 Several Pergunnas situated within the Province of Midnapur were subject to the authority of the Raja of Berar and since the occupation of the Province of Cuttack by the British power engagements have been concluded with the Zamindars of those pergunnas

13 As dependencies of Balasore at which place the Revenues of them were paid those pergunnas might justly be considered to be ceded under the spirit of the stipulations of the 2nd Article of the Treaty but although the construction of the 2nd article of the Treaty should be disputed those pergunnas will necessarily be placed under the authority of the British Government by the letter and spirit of the 10th article

14 The district Morebunge with its dependent Zamindaries was also subject to the authority of the Poudar of Balasore to whom the revenue of that district was paid proposals of submission to the British authority were made by the Zamindar of Morebunge at an early period of time of engagements have since been concluded with that Zamindar That district together with its dependencies and generally all districts either included within the province of Cuttack or dependent on Balasore must also be considered to be ceded to the British Government under the preceding construction of the 2nd and 10th articles of the Treaty

15 The district of which the Revenue or tribute was paid at Balasore are enumerated in the margin to the extent in which the records of Government afford information on that subject The names of some of those districts may however have been omitted the Governor General in Council therefore deems it more advisable to depend on the general description than on the retailed enumeration of them

16 The Raja of Sonapore and Bord some time since dispatched Vakeels to the Commissioners for the Affairs of Cuttack with proposals to become tributary to the British Government and preliminary engagements on the basis of those proposals were actually adjusted between the Commissioners and the Vakeels of those Chieftains The details of the progress of those negotiations which you will receive from the Commissioners will enable you to judge whether under the general principles stated in the 9th and 10th paragraphs of this letter those engagements should be confirmed by the provisions of the 10th article of the Treaty of Peace. The same observations are applicable to several of the Hill Rajas on the north western frontier of the Province of Cuttack

17 Previously to the occupation of the province of Cuttack by the British power the Governor General addressed a letter to Obhiram Singh the Raja of Singboom (a territory situated on the south west back of the Soobanrekha and contiguous to Morebunge) who has long since withdrawn himself from the authority of the Mahratta Government to which he was nominally subject offering to him the protection of the British Government The Raja of Singboom having accepted the offer by a letter which he addressed to the Acting Magistrate of Midnapur must be considered to be entitled to the benefit of the provisions of the 10th article of the Treaty

18 The Governor General in Council understands that there are few inconsiderable districts or pergunnas interposed within the limits of the Zamindaries of Morebunge and Keinjur and their dependancies the proprietors of which have in a similar manner established their independence Although these districts or pergunnas may not be considered to be dependant on any of the territories ceded to the Hon'ble Company by the Treaty with the Raja of Berar the admission of a claim on the part of the Raja of Berar to exercise authority over any of the districts or Pergunnas

so situated would be manifestly inconsistent with the spirit and intent of the 2nd article of the Treaty. Such a claim would perhaps be most effectually precluded by defining the Western boundary of the territory to be ceded between the province of Sambalpur and the Soobanrekha.

19 You are apprized of the instructions which were issued to Lieutenant Colonel Broughton, the Officer to whom the arrangements for the defence of the Western frontier of Bengal were entrusted, for the conclusion of engagements of alliance with the chiefs of Ratanpur, Raigarh and Sambalpur and other Mahratta Chieftains occupying the territory contiguous to that frontier. The state of the negotiations with these Chieftains at the date of our latest advices from that officer is described in the annexed copy of his dispatch of the 26th ultimo.

20 Lieutenant Colonel Broughton has been directed to suspend the prosecution of any further measures of hostility against the dominions of the Raja of Berar, but at the same time to continue in the position which he may occupy at the period of his receipt of these orders until furnished with the further instructions of Government subsequently to the ratification of the Treaty by the Raja of Berar unless the state of the troops under his command should render it necessary to withdraw them. Lieutenant Colonel Broughton has also been directed not to enter into any new engagements of a nature hostile to the rights and interests of the Raja of Berar and to endeavour to communicate to you and to Mr Elphinstone by a direct route any such engagements as he may have contracted with any of the dependants of the Mahratta power together with the names and description of such dependants transmitting to the Presidency a copy of his dispatch which will be immediately forwarded to you and to Mr Elphinstone by the route of Hyderabad.

21 If Lieutenant Colonel Broughton's negotiations should not have proceeded beyond the extent described in the annexed copy of his dispatch of the 26th of December 1803, the Governor-General in Council will not consider the case of those Chieftains to whom that dispatch refers to be subject to the operation of the 10th article of the Treaty. In that event however the Governor-General in Council deems it to be a duty incumbent on the British Government to require that the Raja of Berar shall engage to refrain molesting any of those Chieftains on account of the disposition which they have manifested to support our cause and it should be distinctly understood by the Raja of Berar that his disregard of that engagement at any future period of time will be considered to justify the British Government in affording its protection to those Chieftains against the effects of his resentment, and in placing them in the condition of tributaries to the Hon'ble Company. The same cause should be observed in all cases of a similar nature.

22 The Governor-General in Council entirely approves the arrangement which leaves the forts of Nernalla and Gowilgarh with a contiguous territory in the possession of the Raja of Berar for the reasons stated in the 11th and 12th paragraphs of your dispatch.

23 The article of the Treaty which provides for the general mediation and arbitration of the British Government between the Raja of Berar and our Allies is extremely judicious, highly advantageous to our interests and those of our allies, and honourable to the character of the British Government.

24 A doubt has been suggested by the Governor-General in Council with regard to the construction of the Persian and Mahratta transcripts of the 8th article of the Treaty which may be interpreted to limit the exclusion of the subjects of France as well as those of other European States.

from the service of the Rāja of Berar to the case of the existence of war between the British Government and any of those States by the terms of the English transcripts of that article the exclusion of French subjects from the service of the Rāja of Berar appears to be absolute the objects of this article would perhaps have been more completely attained by the absolute exclusion of all Europeans from the service of the Rāja. The result of the War has however greatly diminished the importance of this object and the Governor General in Council deems it too inconsiderable to hazard the inconvenience which might result from requiring a modification of the terms of that article previously to the ratification and exchange of the Treaty. It may however be advisable to ascertain the Rāja of Berar's construction of that article of the Treaty but without suspending the delivery of the ratified copy. If it should be thought necessary a modification of the 8th article may be hereafter proposed to the Rāja whose ready acquiescence may be reasonably expected.

25 The Governor General in Council is decidedly of opinion that the concessions which have been obtained from the Rāja of Berar are amply sufficient for every purpose of security and retributive virtue to the British Government and its allies and to be entirely conformable to the general spirit and principles of the Governor General's instructions with regard to the terms of pacification with that Chieftain.

26 The Governor-General in Council entirely approves your intention to dispatch the Honble Mr Elphinstone to the Rāja of Berar to act in the capacity of Resident at that Chieftain's Court until the arrival of Mr Webbe.

27 The Governor General in Council has great satisfaction in expressing on this occasion the high sense which he entertains of the zeal abilities and services of Mr Elphinstone during his attendance upon you in the field. The Governor General in Council will readily avail himself of any opportunity of rewarding the merits of Mr Elphinstone by appointing him to a situation which may enable that gentleman to acquire additional honour in the employment of his distinguished zeal and talents in the promotion of the public service.

28 You will be pleased to communicate to Mr Elphinstone this recorded approbation of his public conduct.

Letter No 28—The letter is important inasmuch as it reports the measures General Wellesley had taken for the settlement of the claims of Raghoji to territories in Berar after the treaty with the Company was concluded.

FROM—MAJOR GENERAL WELLESLEY

TO—M S ELPHINSTONE RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

Camp at Jalnapore 19th January 1804

I have had the honour of receiving your letter of the (without date) in which you have enclosed your dispatch and His Excellency the Governor General of the 11th instant. The letter of the 10th instant a copy of which forms part of the dispatch of the Governor General has not yet reached me.

As the Raja of Berar has relinquished the unjust claim he made to the rights of the Soubah of the Deccan on the left bank of the River Wardha and has withdrawn his troops from the (indistinct) on the right bank, I have given orders to the Officer Commanding at Gavilgarh to evacuate the fort and deliver it to the person who will be sent to take charge of it on the part of the Raja of Berar. The fort will be delivered over in the state in which it was on the day the Peace was made, with its guns, stores, etc., and swords, armoury, etc., belonging to the Raja of Berar which still (indistinct) in the fort when I was apprized of his wish to have those articles will be given to his officer there and a separate receipt will be demanded for them. Some of the arms and armour which had been removed to Camp have whereby been delivered to Jeswant Rao Ramchander and I believe that a quantity of those articles have been removed to Ellichpur and are still there. If this should be the case or if there should be any more in camp, they shall be given to Jeswant Rao Ramchander and I beg that you will tell to Raja's Ministers that I am happy and have this opportunity of conforming to the wishes and anticipating to the orders of the Governor-General by doing that which is agreeable to the Raja of Berar.

I have had one conference with Jeswant Rao Ramchander on the subject of the lands to be delivered over to the Raja of Berar contiguous to the hills, on which are situated the forts of Gawilgarh and Nernalla. We should have settled what districts should be delivered to him, in that conference, if I had received true account of their value from Raja Mahipat Ram. But this person takes advantage of my desire to forward the interests of his master constantly with the stipulations of the treaty of peace and with justice to this to deliver me in every instance and I have been obliged to adjourn the decision upon this point till I shall receive more correct accounts. In the meantime I have told Raja Mahipat Ram that if he does not give me correct accounts, I must take there, I shall receive from Ramchander this as correct and decide this question accordingly, so that I hope I shall soon receive the accounts I have required.

I beg that you will explain the cause of the delay in the settlement of this business to the Raja's Ministers and that it can be no loss to the Raja, as I will give orders that he shall collect the revenue from the day on which the issue was made.

Tell Shridhar Pundit that I have settled the question respecting to villages, etc., belonging to him and to Raja's other servants in Berar to his satisfaction and I have sent the paper regarding them to Jeswant Rao Ramchander.

I propose also to settle with Raja Mahipat Ram respecting the villages for Mahajee Naik.

I will write to Raja Mahipat Ram respecting to village of Vroslee.

It occurs me that the village of Vroslee is on this side of the Wardha and is probably held in honour by the Raja. If this is the case, this complaint is made merely to try that point and whether we are likely to yield and if we yield in this instance every village or district held in honour will be treated in like manner. It will be (indistinct) Shreedhar Pundit that if Vroslee is on the right bank of the Wardha, Gangaram has done right to attach it and that the Raja of Berar has behaved improperly in attempting it contrary to the Treaty. If the village should be on the left of the Wardha, the Raja will have it.

Letter No 29 —General Wellesley writes about the political condition in Berar and on its borders. The disposition of the Nawab of Bhopal and the Raja of Kotah is also alluded to

FROM—MAJOR GENERAL WELLESLEY

TO—M S PIPPHINSTON RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

Camp 26th January 1804

I have had the honour of receiving your letter of the 17th and that for the Governor General of the 19th

I don't apprehend any evil design in the detachment to Hoshangabad which it is probable is sent for the purpose stated. The necessity of making this detachment is a proof of the difficulties in which the Raja of Berar would have been involved if the war had continued and the troops had marched to Nagpur and I recommend that you should take an opportunity of pointing this out to the Raja's ministers

I don't think the difference between the account given by the Raja of Jyhpur now of the course of the detachment to Hoshangabad is material. It is very probable that the Afghan Nabab of Bhopal has been residing in the Cotah country possibly in the service of the Raja of Cotah or pensioned by him and that the Raja has encouraged or possibly spirited him in making this attack. The Mahrattas are but little in the habit of adhering to truth they are generally very indistinct in the accounts of transaction of the nature of that alluded to and it rarely happens that these accounts are found to agree exactly with the state of the facts

You have acted quite right in pressing the Raja to send orders to his troops to withdraw. I have received no complaints lately and no accounts from Lt Col Lang who is in Berar with a British Detachment that any of them remain. But the fact is that the Mahratta Troops are but little under control and they withdraw from a country even belonging to their own employers with great reluctance as long as there is anything in it to plunder

The Moghul Troops and Chiefs are not much better and I have been obliged to do all but attack the troops left in Burhanpur in order to induce them to withdraw and although the Soubah's Officers must be aware that Soubah's Government will be the loser by the omission or delay to perform shortly the stipulations of the Treaty it is with utmost difficulty and only by the threats to use force that I can prevail upon them to perform them and even at this moment parts of the Treaties both with Sindia and the Raja of Berar are not performed. Under the circumstances of irregularity and want of principle and good faith and as it appears impossible to raise the views of those with whom we are obliged to act above those of a Pendarey or a rapacious Amil Dar I have only to recommend to you to continue your efforts to oblige the Raja to withdraw the few troops who remain in Berar but their being there shall not prevent me from giving up the Fort of Gavilghur or the district the revenue of which is to be applied to the support of the Garrisons of Gavilghur and Nernallah

I hope to be able to settle all remaining points with Jeswant Rao Ramchander this day and he will then go to Nagpur

I gave him a letter a few days ago addressed to the Officer Commanding the British Troops advancing from the Province of Cuttack to request that he would help and do no injury to the country until he should have received further orders from the Governor General unless he should have heard that His Excellency had not notified the Treaty of Peace

Letter No. 30.—The enclosure is important, as it contains the proposals of the Governor-General to compensate the Bhonsla for the loss of Sambalpur and Patna territories

FROM—N B EDMONSTONE, SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,
TO—M S ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

Fort William, 3rd November 1804

I am directed by His Excellency the Most Noble the Governor-General to transmit to you for the immediate regulation of your conduct the enclosed notes in conformity to which detailed instructions will be transmitted to you with the least practicable delay. You are authorized and directed, however, to proceed upon those notes without awaiting those instructions

Copies of these notes will be transmitted to the Commissioners for the affairs of Cuttack and to the Resident with Dowlat Rao Sindia

Notes for Mr Elphinstone

The Raja of Berar having now formally renounced all claims whatever to the restoration of Sambalpur to his dominion and having admitted that justice of the principles which have regulated the conduct of the British Government, with regard to that question the Governor-General in Council authorizes Mr Elphinstone to renew the discussion on the subject of compensation to the Raja of Berar for the loss both of Revenue and of dominion by the separation of Sambalpur, etc., from his territory. The only compensation is the grant of an annual sum of money together with certain privileges, distinctions or immunities at the principal Hindu places of worship within the British Dominions. The pecuniary compensation to be annual, to be regulated in some degree by the amount of Revenue which the Raja of Berar usually derived from the provinces and tributaries separated from his dominion by the operation of the Treaty of Deogaum, but to exceed that amount considerably. The pecuniary compensation may exceed the total amount of that revenue to the extent of one lakh of rupees

The payment to be made annually to the Raja of Berar at fixed period by the British Resident. The information furnished by Colonel Broughton relative to the Revenue of Sambalpur and Patna, etc., to be communicated to Mr Elphinstone and the Commissioners at Cuttack to be required to furnish this Government and Mr Elphinstone with all the information they possess or can acquire relative to the tribute formerly paid to the Mahratta Government by the Tributary Rajas (not included in the province of Cuttack) with whom they contracted engagements. Mr Elphinstone to ascertain with the utmost practicable accuracy from the Records of the Raja of Berar or from other sources of information the amount of revenue derived from the provinces above described. To communicate the result of his enquiries to Government with a view to enable Government to determine the amount of pecuniary compensation to be made to the Raja. Mr Elphinstone at the same time to state the amount, which he has reason to believe will be considered by the Raja of Berar to be a satisfactory compensation, combined with the proposed privileges at the places of Hindoo worship

(Page torn here)

be advisable to consider a mode of compensating to the Raja's Ministers with same manner pursued by Major Malcom at the Durbar of Sindia, Mr. Elphinstone is at liberty to enter also in this subject, and

to promise pensions to the ministers not exceeding on the whole the total amount of () The privilege proposed to be granted to the Raja of Berar at the principal places of the worship within the Company's dominions is that of granting exemptions from the payment of duties upon pilgrims those places of devotion to a certain number of persons

(Page torn here)

The places of Hindoo worship at which it is proposed to grant the exemption are Jaggernaut Gava and Allahabad and to these may be added Muttra if duties are usually levied there At Benares no duties upon pilgrims are levied but any reasonable privilege which the Raja may desire may be granted at that place

If the Raja accept the privilege of granting exemption in the manner described it will be necessary to impose some restraint on the abuse of that privilege For that purpose the Resident should grant passes (according to a form which will be transmitted) for the number of persons to be exempted at one and the same time and the production of those passes to the Collector of the duties at the several places of Hindoo worship shall constitute an authority for the exemption of those persons from the payment of duties

No passes to be granted to more than () persons at a time

These restrictions to be communicated to the Raja of Berar at the time of offering the proposed privilege as they may possibly affect his sense of the value of that privilege

Mr Elphinstone to repeat to the Raja of Berar that the British Government would restore the provinces of Sambhalpore and Patna to the dominion of the Raja of Berar and the tributaries, with whom we have contracted engagements which are confirmed by the Treaty of Deogaum to their former connection with the Raja of Berar's Government if that measure were not absolutely precluded by the obligation of our public faith But that under the necessity of maintaining the engagements by which those Provinces etc have been separated from the Raja's dominion the British Government is anxious to afford to the Raja of Berar every reasonable and practicable compensation

It is the intention of the British Government to declare the provinces and tributaries above described to be now placed under the protection and authority of the British Government in conformity to the tenor of the engagements concluded with the persons exercising the authority in those provinces and with those tributaries and the British Government will consequently consider itself at liberty to adopt all such measures with respect to the provinces and tributaries as may be consistent with the relations in which they are placed towards the British Government by the tenor of their engagements

The Raja of Berar should be distinctly apprized that any attempt on his part to disturb those provinces and tributaries will be followed by the immediate loss of the proposed compensation in all its branches including the proposed privileges

In such an event the annual payment will be suspended and the proposed privileges will be revoked

In addition to which circumstances a great risk will be incurred of an interruption of the peace and amity now subsisting between the two states,

Mr Elphinstone to apprise the Raja immediately on the receipt of these notes, of the determination of the British Government to grant him compensation and of the proposed nature of that compensation and to enter into discussion of that subject for the purpose of adjusting the preliminary points upon which its ultimate adjustment depends

And Mr Elphinstone is at liberty actually to conclude (subject to the notification of the Governor-General in Council) such of the articles of the proposed arrangement as may appear to him to admit an early conclusion, always conforming to the principles stated in these notes

On the other hand, if the present temper of the Raja or of his durbar, as connected with the state of affairs relating to Holkar or Sindia, should appear to Mr Elphinstone to render this communication liable to misconstruction, Mr Elphinstone will exercise his discretion in suspending it to a more reasonable opportunity

Letter No 31 —Col Close reports what military dispositions he has ordered in Khandesh as a precautionary measure against the possibilities of war breaking out between Bhonsla and the British

FROM—COLONEL B CLOSE, RESIDENT AT POONA,

TO—M S ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

Poona, 6th December 1804

I had the honour to receive your dispatch of the 20th ultimo, last night, and have forwarded a copy of it to the Hon'ble Major-General Wellesly, who was expected to arrive at Seringapatam on the 29th or 30th ultimo, on his way to this station. As he travels quick, I expect he will be here by Christmas

I have also sent a copy of your dispatch to Lieut-Colonel Wallace, or Officer Commanding the troops in the field in Khandesh recommending that he should keep his force in the best practicable state of preparation for marching and use means for keeping himself informed of what passes on the Nerbudda, as well towards Mhasur, as further to the eastward

The whole of Khandesh south of the Taptee, is now in our possession, and the communication has been opened between the upper country and Surat, whence Lieut-Colonel Wallace now draws his supplies. His force consisting of the 94th Regiment, part of the 74th, four Regiments of Native Cavalry, and six Battalions of sepoys, with a proportionate train of artillery. He is besides accompanied by the Nizam's contingent, and a body of Troops belonging to the Peshwa, under the Vinchoor Jaghirdar

Lieut-Colonel Wallace is instructed to occupy a position on the Gerria River to the westward of the line between Adjuntah and Burhanpoor, and to act as circumstances may require

One European and one Native Regiment of Cavalry are advancing from the ceded territories towards the Kistnah, accompanied by the Mysore Horse. At present we have three Native Battalions here, and two more will soon arrive from the Malabar Coast

I have the pleasure to intimate that His Highness the Peshwa gives duly proof of his being well satisfied with his connection with us and firmly resolved to adhere to the alliance

Although your Harearrali did not arrive so soon as to entitle him to the reward you directed for him I have given him 30 Rupees as no doubt he travelled quick

Letter No 32 —Elphinstone points out that the attitude of the Bhonsla in the present situation did not give any cause for anxiety and that he had threatened to leave Nagpur if the Bhonsla did not withdraw some of his troops stationed on the frontiers

FROM -M S ELPHINSTONE RESIDENT AT NAGPUR,
TO—COLONEL LAKE

Nagpur 14th December 1804

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 25th November which reached me by the way of Benares I have communicated the intelligence to the Raja of Berar who ordered a Royal Salute to be fired on the occasion and sent a person of rank numerously attended to congratulate me on the triumph of the British arms I beg leave respectfully to offer to His Excellency the Commander-in-chief my warmest congratulations on the glorious and decisive victories which His Excellency has gained in person and which have been achieved under his auspices

As it is probable that my last dispatches to His Excellency the Governor General have not yet reached His Excellency General Lake I have the honour to communicate the following statement for His Excellency's information I have for some time had reason to suspect the Raja of Berar of intreating with Meer Khan and increasing his army for purposes hostile to our Government These suspicions were in some measure removed by an attack on the Raja's province of Gunny by Meer Khan's troops and by an invasion of this country by his Pindaries who penetrated to Mogron laying waste to the tract through which they past and who would probably have advanced on the Raja who was then at Ramtek had he not retired precipitately to Nagpur From the time of his return to Nagpur (24th November) till the 4th instant the Raja appeared occupied in arrangement for the defence of his territories and of his capital for which purpose he naturally augmented his force but on the 4th instant I learned from the Raja's minister that Vincojee Bhonsla had taken advantage of confusion to entertain troops and had made an attack on the southern part of Berar At the same time I learned that the Raja's whole army was collected near Ponunain a situation very threatening to the Nizam's dominions and that small detachments were spread in different positions all along the left bank of the Wurda I immediately remonstrated in the strongest terms with the Raja on the menacing posture of his armies and the open violation of the faith of treaties committed under the immediate direction of his mother and I threatened immediately to leave his dominions if he did not agree 1st to break up his army by recalling his infantry and guns to Nagpur and sending one division of his old cavalry to Sewny and Chapara and another to Chhindwara a place east of Betul 2nd to recall his troops from the Nizam's frontier 3rd to disband his new levies 4th to seize his brother's country displace his

officers and engage for his neither quitting Nagpur for intriguings against us as in return for these conditions I agreed to remain at Nagpur till I should receive orders but apprized the Raja that the British Army should advance towards his country and the Governor-General would no doubt punish this gross violation of the treaty of Deogaum. These terms were agreed to after I had applied for passports to enable me to leave Nagpur and they have in part been executed. The army has made some marches the guns are arrived here and many of the new levies have been broken. I am to stay till the 16th by which time all the terms, I fixed, are to be completely executed. The only point on which a difficulty has arisen so as to make me doubt the Raja's sincerity is that a corps of about 1,000 men on the Wurda nearly opposite Amraoti have remained there notwithstanding many orders sent or pretended have been sent for their recall. The Raja says they are refractory and other accounts confirm his statements. Amrut Rao is at Amraoti, I wrote him in a general manner recommending his falling back. This had no effect and I have written again desiring particularly that he may retire across the Godawary and stating my reasons precisely 75, 20, 11, 5, 98, 98, 9, 68, 66, 36, 45, 43, 57, 77, 8, 77, 20, 30, 3, 47, 68, 20, 5, 90, 68, 75, 48, 53, 43, 77, 36, 90 recommending 52, 75, 39, 3, 30, 84, 37, 90, 23, 8 and suggesting the propriety of 55, 84, 66, 60, 75, 90, 64, 36, 90, 22 the 4, 36, 64, 84, 76, 3, 9, 84, 37, 68, 79, 46, 66, 36, 22, 9, 66 to 55, 43, 36, 77, 8, 3, 77, 50, 5, 8, 35, 53, 36, 90, 77, 75, 90, 47, 35, 20, 38, 24, 43, 9, 53, 50, 56 and 92, 33, 79, 53, 44, 43, 36, 22, 12, 45. I have no late intelligence of Sindia's motions but I believe he crossed the Nerbudda for Saugor on the 3rd instant. When I last heard of Meer Khan he was at Bilsa, but this is very long ago. Some of his Pindaries are said to be in the Gyalgur hills threatening Berar.

Letter No 33 —The letter contains directions as to how the Resident should conduct himself in the situation envisaged by the Governor-General if hostility broke out. The Governor-General does not approve of the indiscretion of the Resident in believing the mischievous rumours deliberately spread by the enemies of the British Government.

FROM—N B EDMONSTONE, SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,
TO—M S ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

Fort William, the 22nd December 1804

I am directed by His Excellency the Most Noble the Governor-General to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatches of the dates noted in the margin

2 The reports contained in your dispatches combined with those which have been received from the late Resident and the Acting Resident at the Court of Dowlat Rao Sindia and from other quarters have appeared to justify at different times, different and even opposite conclusions with regard to the designs of those Chieftains. The desultory and precarious principles of action which regulate the conduct and proceedings of the Mahratta Chieftains, preclude the practicability of forming a confident opinion of their views from the apparent tendency of their measures or the obvious bias of their interests. It is probable indeed that the views of these Chieftains vary according to the temporary aspect or supposed condition of affairs. Without entering therefore into any speculative discussions of the nature of the actual designs of the Raja of Berar and of

Dowlat Rao Sindia His Excellency the Governor General deems it proper to contemplate and provide for every case which under the state of our information with regard to the proceedings of the Raja of Berar Dowlat Rao Sindia and Ameer Khan can reasonably be supposed to arise and to furnish you with instructions for the regulation of your conduct under the occurrence of any of those cases in which the Court of Nagpur may be concerned. The cases which it appears necessary to contemplate are —

1st The junction of the forces of Dowlat Rao Sindia and the Raja of Berar for purposes hostile to the British Government or its ally the Soubahdar of the Deccan

2nd The junction of the forces of those Chieftains for the purpose of opposing Ameer Khan (Meer Khan?)

3rd The combination of the forces of Dowlat Rao Sindia and Ameer Khan (Meer Khan?) for the purpose of acting against the British power or the state of Hyderabad

4th The combination of the forces of those Chieftains for the purpose of attacking the Raja of Berar's dominions

5th The prosecution of hostilities against the Raja of Berar's dominions by Ameer Khan (Meer Khan?) independantly of Sindia's co-operation

6th The combination of the Raja of Berar with Ameer Khan (Meer Khan?) independantly of Dowlat Rao Sindia

3 The tenor of your late reports has disposed the Governor General to disbelieve the existence of any combination between the Raja of Berar and Dowlat Rao Sindia for the purposes hostile to the British Government or its ally notwithstanding the apparent hostile tendency of Dowlat Rao Sindia's counsels under the direction of Serjee Rao Ghautka and other circumstances which have an apparent tendency to support the credit of such a combination

4 Under this impression the Governor General deems it probable that the junction of the forces of those Chieftains may be concerted for the purpose of opposing Ameer Khan (?) whose Pindaries (it appears by your late dispatches) have actually ravaged a part of the Raja of Berar's territory. In that event the project will of course be avowed by the Raja of Berar. The reality of any such project however must be determined by collateral facts and circumstances for such an avowal might obviously be made with a view to cover designs of an hostile nature. Under any other circumstances therefore than a firm and well founded persuasion that the object of a proposed junction of the forces of Dowlat Rao Sindia with those of the Raja of Berar is to oppose the troops of Ameer Khan (?) you will remonstrate in the strongest terms against such a combination of their forces

5 You will observe by the enclosed copy of the Governor General's instructions of this date to the acting Resident at the Court of Dowlat Rao Sindia the terms in which that officer has been directed to remonstrate with Dowlat Rao Sindia in the event of a proposed or actual junction of the forces of those Chieftains. In the case supposed your representations to the Raja of Berar will be regulated by the spirit of those instructions as far as it may be applicable to the conduct and circumstances of the Raja of Berar and to the position of his forces. You will be careful to observe the same directions as are conveyed in the 7th and 8th paragraphs of His Excellency's instructions to the Acting Resident at the

Court of Dowlat Rao Sindia with respect to a regular communication of your proceedings to the Honourable Major General Wellesley and to Colonel Close, and to the regulation of your conduct, according to the instructions which you may receive from either of those officers

6 The second supposed case, namely the junction of the forces of the Raja of Berar and Dowlat Rao Sindia for the purpose of opposing Ameer Khan (?) does not appear to the Governor-General to require any special instructions for the regulation of your conduct

7 In this case, Major General Wellesley will judge how far it may be expedient to co-operate with Sindia and the Raja of Berar against Ameer Khan (?) and you will act according to Major General Wellesley's determination of that question

8 The third supposed case, namely the co-operation of Sindia with Ameer Khan (?) against the British Power, independently of the Raja of Berar, being inapplicable to the latter Chieftain, requires no instruction for the guidance of your conduct

9 In the event of a combination of the forces of Dowlat Rao Sindia and Ameer Khan for the purpose of attacking the possessions of the Raja of Berar, as stated under the 4th head of supposed cases it is evident that the cause of the Raja of Berar will be the same as that of the British Government, and accordingly in that event, you will encourage the Raja of Berar to employ every exertion for the defence of his dominions, apprizing him that such an event has been anticipated and provided for by His Excellency the Governor-General and that under the orders of His Excellency, the British Troops are prepared to co-operate with those of the Raja of Berar in resisting the combined forces of his enemies, by a movement in the direction of his territory, and that every practicable exertion will be employed by the British Government for his relief

10 The same observations and instructions are applicable to the case of the prosecution of the hostilities against the Raja of Berar's dominions by Ameer Khan, independently of Dowlat Rao Sindia, as stated under the 5th head of supposed cases

11 The General Instructions prescribed for the regulation of your conduct in the event of a junction of the forces of the Raja of Berar and Dowlat Rao Sindia, for purposes hostile to the British Government, or its ally the Soubahdar of the Deccan, are applicable to the combination of the Raja of Berar with Ameer Khan, as stated in the 6th supposed cases. While Ameer Khan shall continue in the condition of an enemy of the British Government, a combination of the forces of these Chieftains to whatever object it may be directed constitutes an act of positive hostility on the part of the Raja of Berar

12 You will be careful to maintain a regular correspondence with the Acting Resident at the Court of Dowlat Rao Sindia on all points connected with the object of these instructions

13 I am directed to take this opportunity of adverting to your report of your conference with the Raja of Berar on the 31st of October as detailed in your dispatch No 33 dated the 1st of November, in which you observed that Holkar had certainly made very great and respectable efforts, that he had penetrated into the country lately conquered from Sindia and had gone through such unexpected exertions as must surprize all India

14 His Excellency the Governor-General observes that such a representation of the supposed exertions of Jeswant Rao Holkar was not

consistent with the judgment and discretion which you have manifested in the general tenor of your conduct at the Court of Nagpur. The information which you have since received of the real course and nature of events will have demonstrated the error of ascribing to Holkar any extraordinary exertion or any degree of military skill, gallantry or enterprize and His Excellency trusts that your habitual prudence will have induced you to take an opportunity of explaining to the Raja of Berar & ministers the error of your former statement.

15 It may be proper that you should caution the Raja of Berar against the danger of giving credit to rumours which are industriously diffused throughout all quarters of Hindustan of a nature injurious to the interests of the British Government and to the reputation of the British arms and favourable to the cause of Holkar and to impress upon the Court of Nagpur a due sense of the peril of founding any course of policy on such idle fabrications. Your own good sense will induce you in future to act with great caution in the event of any such rumours reaching you before you may have received authentic intelligence from Government or its officers.

16 With the exception of the occasion to which the preceding paragraph refers I am directed by His Excellency the Governor General to signify to you His Excellency's entire approbation of your proceedings.

17 Copies of these instructions will be transmitted to the Honble Major General Wellesley, the Resident at Poona and the Acting Resident at the Court of Dowlat Rao Sindia and to the Resident at Hyderabad.

Letter No 34 —The letter conveys the Governor General's approval of Elphinstone's conduct towards the Bhonsla and of the tenor of his late proceedings under the difficult situation in which he was placed. Governor General evinces satisfaction at the pacific disposition of Raghoji. He is also directed to persuade Raghoji to accept a Subsidiary Army within his dominions and preferably at Nagpur.

FROM—N B EDMONSTON SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT
TO—M S ELPHINSTONE RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

Fort William the 31st December 1804

I am directed by His Excellency the Governor General to acknowledge the receipt of your several official and private dispatches of the dates noted in the margin and to apprise you that it is His Excellency's intention to transmit to you detailed official instructions for the regulation of your conduct at the earliest practicable period of time with a view however to afford you the earliest practicable information with regards to His Excellency's sentiments on the subject of your late proceedings and His Excellency's resolution with respect to the Raja of Berar. I am directed to state them in general terms and in a private form instead of postponing the communication of them until the details can be arranged in the form of an official dispatch.

His Excellency entirely approves the energy and firmness of your remonstrances to the Raja of Berar on the occasion of the invasion of the territory of the Soubadar of the Deccan and of the various indications

manifested by the Raja of a disposition to hostility against the British Government

The demands (with one exception) which you have pressed upon the Raja and your declared resolution to quit the Raja's court unless those demands should be complied with were perfectly proper. His Excellency has no doubt that the Raja of Berar has entertained designs of an hostile nature against the British Government, that the troops which he embodied and those which he levied, were eventually extended to co-operate with Holkar, and that the proceedings of his brother Nana Sahib were secretly abetted by the Raja. But the tenor of your official letter No 45, dated the 7th of December and of your private dispatches of the 7th, 8th, 10th, 11th and 12th, especially of the latter dispatch, has satisfied the mind of His Excellency that the Raja of Berar has relinquished all intentions of engaging in a contest with the British Power. The circumstances stated in your dispatches, constitute in His Excellency's judgment satisfactory proof that the Raja of Berar at length entertains a just sense of the folly of engaging in a contest with the British Government and that he is now sincerely disposed to maintain the relations of amity and peace with us. The Raja having actually discharged his new levies, his artillery having returned to Nagpore, and Janaram Buxshee's army having marched in a north easterly direction these facts combined with the general conduct of the Raja, his humility, his concessions and manifest alarm, supersede in His Excellency's decided judgment any inferences unfavourable to the credit of these pacific indications deducible from the continuance of the Corps of Pindaries on the banks of the Wardha. That Corps it appears does not exceed 1,000 men. After adopting measures which deprive the Raja of much more ample means of offence, he cannot reasonably be supposed, clandestinely to encourage the hostile proceedings of that force. His Excellency therefore is disposed to credit the Raja's declaration of his inability to control the proceedings of its commander.

Entertaining this view of the subject His Excellency cannot altogether approve your resolution to quit the Raja's Court unless that force should be withdrawn. At the same time His Excellency is satisfied of the rectitude of your intention and ascribes those resolutions exclusively to the excess of a meritorious and honourable zeal for the public interest committed to your charge.

His Excellency trusts that subsequent reflection or subsequent events will have induced you to continue at Nagpore. In the event however of your having actually quitted the Raja's Court, without any additional and positive indication of hostility on the part of the Raja, it is His Excellency's wish that you should return and that every measure should now be pursued for the purpose of satisfying the Raja of the amicable and pacific intentions of the British Government. His Excellency concludes that if you should have quitted Nagpore, your departure will not have been attended by circumstances which would render your return incompatible with the dignity of the British Government as involving an admission of precipitancy and injustice in having quitted the Raja's Court. His Excellency indeed understands from the tenor of your private dispatches that your retirement from the Court on the grounds stated in your letter of the 12th June have been accompanied by a declaration that you should await the judgment of the Governor-General on the Raja's conduct and His Excellency's instructions with respect to your future proceedings.

Under these suppositions the following instructions will be applicable to the case either of your continuance at Nagpore or of your return after having quitted that court.

You will apprise the Raja that the information which His Excellency the Governor General has received both from your reports and from other quarters with regards to the Raja's conduct and proceedings has convinced His Excellency of the Raja's original intention to co-operate eventually against the British Power or its ally that the satisfactory demonstrations however which the Raja has subsequently manifested of a returning sense of his errors have induced the Governor General to refrain from the adoption of measures for the punishment of his aggression and that His Excellency is disposed to renew and corroborate the bonds of peace and alliance with the Raja and to forget the past if assured of the Raja's future adherence to the obligations of amity and public faith You will accordingly countersign any suggestions or orders which may have been issued by the British troops for the occupation of any position of a menacing nature to the Raja's possessions and you will proceed to signify to the Raja that with a view to manifest the amicable intentions of the British Government and its disposition to conciliate his attachment and promote his interests you have received instructions for the losses which the Raja has sustained by the operation of the 10th article of the Treaty of Deogaum

His Excellency accordingly directs that you will actually commence a negotiation with the Raja of Berar on that subject in conformity to the instructions of His Excellency conveyed in the notes addressed to you under date the 2nd of November But it is His Excellency's anxious desire to combine with that negotiation an arrangement for establishing a subsidiary force at Nagpore or at any other station within the Raja's dominions more convenient for the purposes of its appointment, as affording the most ample security for the future pacific conduct of the Raja of Berar and the most effectual protection to the whole of our Western frontier from the Sonne to Cuttack

It is desirable that this arrangement should be the result of a solicitation on the part of the Raja From your letter of the 8th instant it appears to have been offered by the Raja as a concession and if by representation of the advantages of such an arrangement the Raja cannot be induced to solicit it as highly beneficial to his interests His Excellency will approve the accomplishment of that arrangement on the grounds of a satisfactory security against any future hostile designs on the part of the Raja of Berar

These general instructions will determine the general line of conduct to be pursued towards the Raja of Berar which it is the Governor-General's wish to conduct in a sincere spirit of conciliation and forbearance and will enable you to proceed until furnished with more detailed instructions for your guidance.

Letter No 35 —The letter is important since it contains a variety of details about the attitude of the Bhonsla when the war was going on with Holkar and in the north about the internal affairs of the Government of the Bhonsla and about the relations between the Bhonsla and other Maratha Chiefs

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

TO—COLONEL B CLOSE RESIDENT AT POONA

Nagpur the 28th January 1805

I have now the honour to communicate to you the account of the Bhonsla's proceedings to which I referred in a former dispatch

The Raja gave me no reason to suspect his fidelity to his engagement till the month of August when the account of the retreat of our detachments in Malwa became public. From that time the Raja's hopes of being able to maintain a contest with the British seem to have revived. He held frequent consultations with his confidential ministers and appeared to have some important measures in contemplation at the same time reports of his hostile intentions began to prevail and he visibly gave more attention to his army than he had done since the peace of Deogaum.

Towards the middle of September I received distinct information of the nature of the consultations which occupied the Raja's time. They referred to a projected confederacy with Holkar and to an invasion of Cuttack with a view to which intrigues were entered on with the Khoorda Raja under the directions of Raghojee Bhonsla. When the preparations became more public they were ascribed to an intended expedition against Hoshangabad. Sindia's march to that place was also professed by for the purpose of restoring it to the Raja but as the confederates did not execute this project when fully prepared and when the success of Sindia's first operations gave them every reason to express the easy accomplishment of their design it must be thought very doubtful whether the capture of Hoshangabad in reality was the ultimate object of their preparations.

About the beginning of October a Vakeel named Hybut Rao arrived here from Meer Khan. He was well received and lodged with the Raja's Chitnavces where he still continues. My secret intelligence represented this person as being charged with three demands, the Raja's compliance with some one of them was to be compelled by threats of invasion from Meer Khan. The first was that the Raja send an army to co-operate with Holkar, the 2nd that he should furnish him with sum of money and the 3rd that if he would not go to war with the British he should embarrass them by demanding the restoration of Berar. Hybut Rao I believe was Vakeel for Meer Khan only, the communications with Holkar being carried on through Venkat Rao his minister at this Court and Esonaut Omajee the Bhonsla's Vakeel in his camp. On the arrival of Hybut Rao, I thought it necessary to warn the Raja against the false statements and deceitful acts which Holkar's agents would make use of for the purpose of inducing him to join their masters' desperate cause and of the certain ruin he would draw upon himself if he allowed himself to be influenced by their suggestions. About the middle of October, Ballajee Eswant Sindia's Vakeel at Nagpore returned from a visit to his own court. Immediately after his interview with the Raja, Saccaram Bukhshee marched with a reinforcement of 3,000 men and guns to take the command of the Raja's army then encamped near Chouragarh. At the same time the Raja's military preparations in other points assumed an appearance of increased activity.

The Raja endeavoured to account for these appearances by saying that his country near Sagar was threatened by Meer Khan and that he was about to send troops for its defence. This message was accompanied by an intimation that the Raja had great fears of his nephew Goojabba's quitting his court and going into some foreign service having before received intelligence that it was in contemplation to send Goojabba to Holkar under pretence of a quarrel between him and the Raja. This circumstance made me doubt the truth of the whole message which I was inclined from other reasons to disbelieve. I therefore suspected that Meer Khan's attack on the Raja's possession was a misrepresentation made with a view of enabling the Raja to assemble his troops near the army of that partizan and of Dowlat Rao Sindia. I had before abstained from remonstrating with the Raja in the idea that he wished to await the issue of the contest between the British and Holkar without declaring himself on either side.

and that as the event would certainly be favourable to us it was desirable to encourage this spirit and to avoid bringing the business to an issue while Holkar's power was undiminished but the message above mentioned induced me to think that there was no time to be lost and I accordingly waited on the Raja stated my doubts on the subject of Meer Khan's attack and pointed out the danger and impropriety of his sending his army to a position near the Army of Meer Khan and not far from the British frontier. The Raja assured me in reply of Meer Khan's hostile intentions and promised to show me letters from that Chief threatening the Bhonsla Government with him if an immediate payment of money was not made by it to him. He also said that he should not send his Army near Sagar unless his country was actually invaded if not such event took place it was to remain at Hoshangabad. On examining the letters I found them to contain expressions calculated to excite the Raja's hopes and revive his ambition and an invitation in plain terms to unite and chastise the enemy with a threat or warning that neglecting to do so would occasion the ruin of the state. Conceiving the style and matter of this letter to be at variance with the Raja's account of Meer Khan's message and having other reasons for suspecting his intentions I continued remonstrating on the increase of his army and threatening him with the consequences of any infringement of the peace till the end of November although his preparations appeared to slacken during that period.

On the 24th of November I received intelligence of an incursion of Pindaries then said to be Meer Khan's who certainly did most serious damage to the Raja's country soon after I learned that Nagoo Jewajee had attacked Gurry Mundela and had been repulsed by the Raja's officer there with great loss. I found also that a degree of misunderstanding subsisted between the Raja and Sindia on account of Ragojee's not paying some money which Dowlat Rao was said to have stipulated for before he moved to Hoshangabad. In consequence of those circumstances I began to think that if the Raja had been engaged in any confederacy he had now drawn back from it and that Meer Khan was about to compel him to assist Holkar. This impression was strengthened by Jeswant Rao's informing me about the beginning of December that the Raja had broke his army into three divisions that all the roads by which the Pindaries could come might be stopped.

All communications with the Northern parts of the Raja's country being at this time cut off and the extreme alarm and confusion which prevailed at Nagpore rendering it impossible to obtain correct intelligence I gave credit to Jeswant Rao's account which I thought a decisive proof that the Bhonsla harboured no plans for aggression but I began to apprehend that the Raja might be led by his fears to join the enemy contrary to his inclination. I therefore threw out hints that His Highness might hope for the assistance of the British Government if he made resolute stand against Holkar and I was on the point of giving a proof of the Governor General's good will by entering on a negotiation for affording the Raja a compensation for Sambalpoore when on December 4th I was visited by Jeswant Rao who informed me that Nana Sahib had long been collecting troops without the Raja's knowledge and had now surprised the fortress of Maunickgur on the right bank of the Wurda. About the same time I received a letter from the Aumil of Rallygong stating that his district had been invaded by troops belonging to Sena Sahib Sooba (Ragojee Bhonsla). I went immediately to the Raja remonstrated with him in the severest terms on his ungrateful and perfidious conduct and pointed out the destruction and misery which he would draw on himself by his disregard of faith and justice. The Raja endeavoured to persuade me that the outrage of which I complained had been committed by some troops who were in

no service and had no view but plunder. He said he found the story of his brother's being concerned of his having taken Manikgur to be a mistake. The real offenders were about 1,200 men of the description he had mentioned and they had only plundered Vainecotta and a few open villages and he also offered to send troops into the Nizam's country to chastize them. On my rejecting this proposal and pointing out the impossibility of so large corps collecting within the Raja's dominions unobserved by the Government the Raja repeated his professions of fidelity to his engagements and enquired what he should do to satisfy His Excellency the Most Noble the Governor-General. To this I replied that I doubted whether it was possible to satisfy His Excellency at all but that I would consent to await the result of an enquiry into the circumstances of the attack on Vainecotta provided His Highness would agree to disband his new levies to disperse his old army into remote positions and to hold himself responsible for the pacific conduct of his brother and all his subjects during the interval or if he was unable to control their violence that he should call in the British Army for that purpose. The Raja made difficulties about this last article and put off giving his answer on it till the following day. In course of this conversation it appeared that the Raja's army instead of being divided in the manner described by Jeswant Rao had been collected in consequence of orders sent by the Raja fifteen days before at a place called Lodicare (Lodhikhera) situated I believe to the south of the Poorna and within no great distance of the Nizam's country of (indistinct). On the 5th the Raja was sick and requested me to put off my visit till the 6th to which I consented but warned the Raja that I expected when we did meet that he would either agree to all my proposals or give me passports to enable me to quit his country.

Next morning I went to him and he confessed that he had now discovered the attack on Berar to have originated in Nana Saheb (Vincagee Bhonsla). I replied to this that the Raja must answer for his brother's conduct. I brought forward arguments to show that Nana Saheb could make no attack without the Raja's knowledge and remarked that if the Raja had not ordered his brother to invade Berar he had approved the measure as its author continued still at large and unpunished. I now required the Raja to confiscate Nana Saheb's share of the country to engage that he should not leave Nagpoor or continue his intrigues here and that he should procure the recall of the troops who were plundering in Berar. The Raja refusing to consent to these terms, I requested that he should allow me to withdraw from his dominions after a long interval. The Raja desired to be allowed to retire for some time. When he came back he agreed to all my demands and orders were written to Saccaram Bukhshee to send half of his army to Chupara and half Sindora East of Betul. I reminded the Raja that I did not promise that His Excellency the Most Noble the Governor-General should not punish his breach of treaty with immediate hostilities and clearly explained to him that the British Army should immediately advance towards his dominions, after which I withdrew. In course of the next two or three days I obtained such information as put it out of all doubt that the incursion into Berar was planned or abetted by Ragojee Bhonsla. The principal grounds of this were the Raja's preparations and suspicious conduct for some time preceding this crisis. The position of his army which though well suited to a plan of invading Berar was nither calculated to repel the Pindaries nor to oppose Meer Khan the intelligence which I began to receive of bodies of troops at Kailode, Tannygong and Sailo Gooran which places together with the station of Saccaram Bukhshee's army and that from which the party marched which attacked Vainecotta extended along the whole of the Raja's and Nizam's common frontier and are all situated within the country under the Raja's immediate management. Also that the infantry then

plundering in Berar had been raised in Nagpore that the cavalry belonged to Andlekar and Aher Rao old cirdars of the Raja's and that the troops at Tannygong belonged to Chuttur Singh a Chief in the Raja's immediate service. It was besides impossible to suppose that Vincoje Bhonsla could hope to cope with the British or even the Nizam's Government and that he could expect to carry on the war without his brother's knowledge. To these may be added intelligence which I received about the middle of November though it made no great impression on me at the time and did not occur to my recollection till some time after the inroad into Berar. About the time I mention I was informed that the Raja had desired his brother to entertain troops and had made over some of his own to him the reason alleged for this arrangement was that the Raja wished to throw part of the burden of the state on Nani Salich and his mother who willingly expends her treasure in the (?) of her younger son. I was informed from another quarter that there was some plan of a feigned quarrel between the brothers the object of which was to enable the Government to keep on good terms both with Holkar and the British at the same time. I heard also that a real difference existed between Bhonslas. The course of events is most favourable to the former account but it is difficult even now to believe that the Raja would trust the existence of his state to the success of so contemptible a stratagem. Another proof of the Raja's hostile intentions may be drawn from a fact which had not at that time come to my knowledge. His Highness's Vakeel at Hyderabad presented a remonstrance to the Nizam about the time of the incursion into Berar which was so expressed that the British Resident at that Court declares that considering the Raja's late conduct he could view it in no light but that of a manifested (?). The above circumstances with the exception of that last mentioned convinced me that the attack on the Nizam's country originated with the Raja and as no change of circumstances had taken place since it had been made I could not but entertain strong suspicions of the sincerity of the Raja's pacific declaration and accordingly on the 7th of December perceiving clearly that the Raja was desirous of evading the fulfilment of the conditions I had proposed I went to inform him that his late conduct authorized every suspicion of him and that if his intentions were now good it was his business to show it. That on the contrary he had failed even in complying with the letter of his engagements and that if he did not take such steps as should convince me of his sincerity I would on the next morning quit his Court. In consequence of this message Jeswant Rao and Jykesian Rao came to me on the night of the 7th and gave me such strong assurances of the Raja's sincerity that I was induced to agree to stay some days so as to give His Highness time to show his pacific disposition. At this visit Jeswant Rao asked me as from himself if His Excellency the Governor General would grant the Raja a British force and said that plan would be very advantageous to the Raja and would satisfy His Excellency of his sincere desire to cultivate the Company's friendship. I objected to talking on public business in the manner proposed and said that after the Raja's conduct it was very doubtful whether His Excellency the Governor General would grant him a force but I added that when the Raja should have disarmed I would listen to any official proposal on the subject.

Next day Jeswant Rao brought the information that the Raja had discharged some of his troops.

In the evening I received letters from the Nizam's Officers at Berar representing that there was a considerable body of Pindaries at Mahisadee a place near one of the defiles which lead from the Jussadry hills into Berar and that they were said to intend an invasion of that province. I immediately warned the Raja that if the passes were not defended he must answer for the damage which the Pindaries might do in Berar. On the

9th I received that the Corps at Tannygong had advanced to the Wurda and that it was still increasing as there was ample time for the Raja's orders to have reached this corps. I could not but consider this movement as strong ground for suspecting that the Raja did not really wish it to return and that he was guilty of similar acts of treachery at more remote stations from which I could not so soon receive intelligence. I therefore announced to Jeswant Rao that if the Corps in question was not recalled or if I was not satisfied of the Raja's wish to recall it before the third day, I should return to my former resolution of withdrawing from this country. On hearing the contents of this note the Raja sent to apprise me of his intention to come to my house and came immediately after this. He made very strong professions of his earnest wish to recall all the troops from the frontier but observed that it would require some time to effect that object. His conduct was so humble and submissive on this occasion that I am induced to think he must that day have heard of the victories over Holkar of which I received intelligence two or three days after.

On the 10th I received information of the arrival of Amrut Rao in Berar, though I had no reason to suspect Amrut Rao of disaffection to our cause and though it was clearly his real interest to adhere to the English yet considering the passion for intrigue which so often infatuates the natives and the discontent which Amrut Rao might be supposed to feel at the Peshwa's treatment of him, I thought it prudent to endeavour to keep him out of all situations where he might be tempted to engage in plots and political speculations particularly as I did not know that there was any reason to wish for his speedy arrival at Benares. I therefore wrote to him to beg he would stop his journey and I continued this request after I was satisfied that the Raja had no intention to attack Berar because I was uncertain that the orders of His Excellency the Governor-General on the Raja's conduct might not involve a fresh misunderstanding with his court.

On the 10th I was informed by a letter from Bisnoor that the troops from Tannygong had crossed the Wardha and plundered a merchant at Tewsa, ten miles to the West of the Nizam's boundary. On this I reminded remonstrances and repeated my determination of leaving Nagpore, at the time fixed.

On the 12th I communicated to the Raja the official account of the battle of Dig on which he fired a royal salute and sent a person to congratulate me. I also received such intelligence as induced me to believe that the troops on the Wardha were not under the Raja's control and I learned that his army broke up and quitted its menacing position. I therefore agreed to put off my journey and from that time to this I have had no serious reason to doubt the Raja's intention of continuing at peace with the British Government although the Nizam's country on the Wardha suffered considerable alarms from the passage of the Raja's refractory troops along that river to the Nerbudda which I believe have now crossed. The Raja's Army has not been divided as was stipulated, but I believe the reason assigned by the Raja to be the one it is that the troops are ill-paid and refuse to move without advances. It is however at the Turra Ghaur (Chouragarh) near Devgur and not in menacing position. I believe the Raja's principal force is at present at Nagpore. I believe his troops here to consist of 15,000 horse and 3,000 foot, on Saccaram Bukhshee Camp he may have 4,000 horse and 3,000 foot, chiefly Arabs and Rohillas, in Gurrah Mundela there are about 5,000 men and there are 6 guns with Saccaram Bukhshee. I believe the number of troops disbanded by the Raja including those who threatened and invaded Berar may amount 4,000 or 5,000 men. The seizure of Nana Sahib's country has really taken place although I never mentioned it after the (indistinct) of December.

I from the above circumstances joined to general appearances and reports I believe the Raja to have laid aside the intentions which I am convinced he entertained of profiting by the first opportunity to attack us and our allies. Nothing can be a stronger proof of his wish to remain at peace than his anxiety respecting His Excellency the Governor General's resolution on his conduct and his joy when he found the decision so favourable.

I am sorry I cannot furnish you with a particular account of the negotiations between this court and Sindia. The following are the principal facts which have come to my knowledge. When Sindia moved towards Hoshangabad the Raja of Berar certainly engaged to assist him with his troops and to pay him a sum of money and I believe a portion of the money was paid off. This part remained in the hands of Ballajee Eswant on whom Sindia gave bills to people whom he employed to raise men at Nagpore. There was at first every appearance that the Raja intended to send his troops to join Sindia and when he failed in doing so Sindia became very impatient wrote to the Raja's Chief at Chouragur and Gurry Mundela to join him without waiting for orders from Nagpore. The reason given by the Raja's ministers to me for his not permitting his troops to join Sindia is that he was averse to acting in concert with a court under Gathe's influence. I believe that the Raja at the same time that he delayed the advance of his troops declined paying the rest of the money he had promised Sindia and that he made no further payments till after the incursion of the Pindaries when he is said to have given 5 lacs of rupees through Ballajee Eswant to Sindia. I am the more inclined to believe that the Bhonsla has advanced money at different times to Sindia on account of the great distress which Raghojee appears to suffer from want of money notwithstanding his extortions from the bankers and the small payments which he made to his army.

A person named Boojing Roy resided here some time on Sindia's part for the purpose of raising men and marched in November with a considerable number of troops that he had levied amounting according to the accounts of the Raja's ministers to near 4000 men.

A Mahometan Sirdar of some consequence in Sindia's service whose name is Himmatt Bahadur has resided here for some weeks. He is treated with great attention by the Raja and his avowed reason for coming here is some domestic concern. There are different accounts of his real object the most probable of which is that he was sent with a bill on Ballajee Eswant for the remainder of the sum due by the Raja and that he has orders to raise men with the money and march with them to Sindia's Camp.

There is also a person named Atma Ram here at present who holds or has held some important station in Sindia's service. I heard at one time that he had been deputed hither by Serjee Rao but I now understand that he has come from the southward on his way to Sindia's Camp.

Letter No 36.—The letter refers to the unwillingness of the Bhonsla to accede to the Subsidiary Alliance and to the sentiments of the Governor-General about this.

FROM—N. B. EDMONSTONE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

TO—M. ELPHINSTONE RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

Fort William the 4th March 1805.

I have received the commands of His Excellency the Most Noble the Governor General to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatches Nos. 49 and 50 under date the 30th of January and to communicate to you His Excel-

lency's observations and instructions on the information contained in them for your guidance

2 His Excellency entirely approves the language and arguments adopted by you on the discussion which you have held with the Raja and his Ministers on the several topics which have formed the subject of your recent communications with the Darbar as described in those letters

3 The Governor-General has directed me to express to you, in a particular manner, the high approbation with which His Excellency has viewed your conduct in the discussions which you held with the Raja and his ministers with a view to demonstrate to the Raja the advantage which his affairs would derive from the acceptance of a subsidiary British Force to be permanently established within his dominions

4 His Excellency considers your conduct on this occasion to be distinguished by an extraordinary degree of ability, address and discretion

5 Under these circumstances of the Raja's apparent disinclination to receive a Subsidiary Force at the present moment the Governor-General does not deem it to be advisable to urge His Highness further on that point. The Governor-General is willing to leave the Raja to the operation of future events on his mind and to trust exclusively to that influence for the means of effecting the object of obtaining the accession of the Raja to the alliance

6 With this view, His Excellency directs me to apprise you of his desire that you will refrain from any further agitation of the question, unless it shall be revived by the Raja himself. In the event of any renewal of the subject by the Raja at a future period of time, you will receive in reply to your report of that event such instructions on the subject as may be applicable to the circumstances of the case

7 The Governor-General directs me however to observe, that although His Excellency is far from being of opinion that the accession of the Raja to the alliance is an object of any material importance to the British Government in the present state of the Political affairs of India, yet that His Excellency would be disposed to receive with cordiality any overtures from the Raja to that effect provided they should undoubtedly originate in the Raja's conviction of the importance of such an arrangement to his own security and advantage and not be considered by him as a concession to the British Government

8 The remaining subjects of your dispatches have either been sufficiently provided for by former instructions, or do not appear to require the immediate notification of the Governor-General's sentiments

Letter No 37 —Elphinstone suggests the possibility of an attack on the dominions of the Nizam and the Raja of Berar, by the cavalry of Sindhia's and Holkar's armies.

FROM —M ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR,

TO—LORD WILLIAM BENTINCK

Nagpur, the 27th May 1805

Having been directed by His Excellency the Governor-General to communicate all political intelligence which may reach me to your Lordship, I have now the honour to enclose a copy of a letter from the Resident in Sindia's Camp apprising me of an intended attack on the dominions of the Nizam and those of the Raja of Berar by the cavalry of Sindia's and Holkar's Armies.

I have received an intimation to the same effect from the Raja of Berar & ministers

The Raja has lately collected an army amounting to near ten thousand men at a position within eight or ten miles of this city. His Highness continues on very friendly terms with the British and appears desirous of waiting the event of the present war without taking any part in it. Besides the force already mentioned His Highness's Army consists of about 7000 men in Gurry Mandela and the northern parts of the Raja's country together with 2000 or 3000 men on other parts of his dominions of these considerably the greater parts is cavalry.

The province of Gurry Mandela has till lately been disturbed by incursions of the Bondelas as the country on the left bank of the Nerbudda has by insurrections of the hill people who inhabit that tract. The Bondelas have now turned into the districts belonging to Sagar and the Raja's troops on the Nerbudda have nearly succeeded in quelling the disturbances in that quarter.

I shall continue to submit to your Lordship any information of importance which I may receive and apprise you of any occurrences in this part of India which may appear worthy of your Lordship's notice.

Letter No 38 — Col Close suggests that the Bhonsla may feel inclined to join Holkar and Meer Khan if they entered his territories, because Sindhia had already joined and the Bhonsla had all along been averse to entering Subsidiary Alliance with the British.

FROM—COLONEL B. CLOSE RESIDENT AT POONA

TO—M. ELPHINSTONE RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

Poona the 30th May 1805

I have received the copy of Mr. Jenkin's private letter to your address of the 22nd April which you enclosed to me and which intimates that he had received intelligence that it was amongst the schemes of Ghautky and Meer Khan to proceed to the Eastward with a part of their forces in order to ravage the territories of the Raja of Berar.

2 I cannot but believe the information that towards the end of April His Excellency the Right Honble the Commander in Chief arrived with the Army on the Chumbul and that on his approach Sindia Holkar and Meer Khan retired towards Kotah. Impressed by this truth of this intelligence I think it probable that whatever schemes Ghautky and Meer Khan may have had in contemplation at the date of Mr. Jenkin's letter they may have since found it necessary to alter them and that considering the advanced period of the season it is likely that His Excellency's operations on the Chumbul will furnish sufficient employment to these Chieftains to detain them to the Northward of Nerbudda till after the rains.

3 But if Ghautky and Meer Khan approach the territory of the Raja of Berar I would have you apply to such state of things the instructions contained in the 9th paragraph of Mr. Secretary Edmonstone's dispatch to your address dated the 22nd December 1804 warning the Raja eventually that a combination of his forces with those of Ghautky or Meer Khan will be considered as an act of positive hostility on the part of the Raja. If the invasion takes place as above supposed which is certainly very improbable, and the Raja proceed decidedly to oppose the invaders

afford him such support from the army of the Deccan as circumstances may permit. At the same time I do not conceive that any combination of circumstances can make it expedient for the troops in this quarter to cross the Wardha before or during the rains.

4 In the event of the invasion alluded to, taking place and if the Raja of Berar proceeding to join the invaders for purposes hostile to the British Interest or of those of our allies the combination must be opposed by such a system of operations as the circumstances of the crisis may suggest.

5 The Raja of Berar has shown a decided disinclination to accept a Subsidiary Force from the British Government and at the same time has hitherto avoided the most pressing invitations from Sindia's Government to co-operate in its views. It is apparent therefore that the Raja's policy is to preserve the independence of his Government by pursuing a middle line calculated to save him from the necessity of uniting with either side. This insecure system of policy the Raja might possibly be induced to abandon for a union with Sindia and the adverse Chieftains did their fortunes improve to such a degree as to open a prospect to the Raja that by espousing their cause he might recover the territories which he lost by the Treaty of Peace. On the other hand, the spirit of the Raja's Government as well as his habits of life would naturally render him reluctant to throw himself into the hands of a band who can maintain themselves only by indiscriminate plunder, and who are regulated only by principles of falsehood and treachery.

6 It is impossible to discover the plan on which the Raja has lately assembled so large a force at his Capital, but it will be desirable not to manifest suspicions against the sincerity of his professions except on obvious grounds and especially as he would meet at such disclosure on our part, arguments in support of his views which it would be difficult to answer.

7 From such considerations I do not conceive that remonstrance at this juncture against his .. (indistinct) so strong a Force assembled would be advisable or productive of any effect unless it should be pushed to a critical extreme.

Letter No. 39.—Mr Edmonstone, Secretary to Government, conveys in this letter the sentiments of Cornwallis towards the Sindhia, who is not likely to persist in his unfriendly attitude, towards the Bhonsla. He suggests that a conciliatory attitude should be assumed and that the Bhonsla should be given an assurance of the return of Sambalpur and Patna provided the Bhonsla remained loyal and friendly and restrained his brother Nana Sahib from his hostile activities and from joining the enemies of the British Government.

FROM—N B EDMONSTONE, SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

TO—M. ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

Camp on the River Bankipore, 14th September 1805.

I am directed by the most Hon'ble the Governor-General to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No 69, dated the 17th of August, and to communicate to you the following observations and instructions for the regulation of your conduct under the circumstances stated in that letter.

2. The information which the Governor General has received relative to the movements and intentions of Sindia and Holkar precludes any expectation of an attempt on the part of either of those Chieftains or of any Chieftain under their authority to prosecute hostilities against the possessions of the Raja of Berar and His Lordship also deems it highly improbable that Nana Sahib whether acting with or without the concurrence of the Raja his brother will venture to attack the territories either of the Company or of its ally the Subahdar of the Deccan. I am directed however to communicate to you the determination of His Lordship under the occurrence of either of the events stated in your dispatch.

3. With regard to the point I am directed to inform you that you are authorized to renew the offer of assistance in the event of an attack upon the Raja's dominions by the forces of Sindia Holkar or any other partizan of those Chieftains provided the relations of amity should not at that time subsist between the British Government and those Chieftains.

It may be proper to observe that the British Government at present considers it to be upon terms of amity with Dowlat Rao Sindia and that the Governor-General entertains the expectation of effecting a satisfactory adjustment of all points of difference with that Chieftain. The care therefore as applicable to Sindia, can only refer to the possible though improbable event of a rupture with him. The Governor General is not desirous of concluding general defensive arrangements with the Raja of Berar and is only disposed to aid him as a measure of active operation against the enemy of the British Government and as being calculated to prevent the enemy from obtaining the resources of the Raja's possessions or from compelling the Raja to join in active operations against our territories or those of our allies.

4. With regard to the Second point stated in your dispatch I am directed to signify to you that the Governor General will consider the Raja of Berar to be responsible for the conduct of his brother as it respects the commission of hostilities against the British Government or its allies and any attack upon the territories of the British Government or its allies by the troops of Nana Sahib will be considered as an attack on the part of the Raja unless His Highness should immediately adopt the most vigorous measures for the suppression of such an outrage.

5. I am directed however to inform you that the Governor General is desirous of observing the most conciliating conduct towards the Raja of Berar. His Lordship remarks that although the general conduct of the Raja has been much more consistent with the relations of amity between the two states than that of Sindia he has suffered in a far greater degree by the arrangements of the peace of Deogaum and His Lordship is anxious to ameliorate his condition by the restoration of the provinces of Sambalpoore and Patna, if that measure be practicable without a positive violation of public faith.

6. By the enclosed copy of a letter addressed by the authority of the Governor General to Captain Roughsedge holding the temporary command of the Ramgurrh Battalion, you will be apprized of the measures which His Lordship has adopted with a view to have it in his power to restore the provinces of Sambalpoore and Patna to the Raja of Berar.

7. The Governor General in Council is anxious that the Raja should be apprized of the favourable sentiments which His Lordship entertains towards the Raja and of his solicitude to be enabled to add to the extent

and power of his dominions by the restoration of these provinces At the same time His Lordship wishes to combine with the communications of these favourable sentiments and intentions, a declaration calculated to deter the Raja from the prosecution of any designs hostile to the British Government The Governor-General accordingly desires that you will obtain an early audience of the Raja and make a communication to him to the following effect

8 You will remind the Raja of the intimate friendship which subsisted between the British Government and the State of Berar during the former administration of Marquis Cornwallis You will assure him that His Lordship is anxious to maintain the same amicable and intimate relations between the two states That His Lordship is concerned at the occurrences which have unavoidably occasioned the reduction of his power and dominions and that His Lordship would gladly avail himself of any opportunity of improving the condition of his Government and of augmenting his possessions to the extent practicable consistent with equity and the obligations of public faith You will further apprise the Raja that His Lordship has actually adopted measures with a view to enable him to accomplish these favourable intentions You will signify to the Raja at the same time that these sentiments and intentions are founded on the confidence of the Raja's sincere disposition to observe the duties of amity and friendship towards the British Government and that the Raja cannot expect that the Governor-General should retain his solicitude for the improvement of his condition, while he affords any reason to doubt the sincerity of his professions of amity You will then proceed to state to the Raja that the Governor-General is apprized of the mission of Govind Rao Tatteah to Holkar and of the suspicious conduct of his brother in levying troops in Chhattisgarh and Chanda You will signify to the Raja the above declared, that the Governor-General will consider His Highness to be responsible for the conduct of his brother with respect to the British Government and its allies and that the commission of any hostilities by Nana Saheb against the possessions of the British Government or its allies will compel the British Government to adopt the most vigorous measures against His Highness's dominions You will contrast the advantages which he is likely to derive from the prosecution of a just, unsuspecting and amicable course of conduct with the dangers to which he will be exposed by contrary line of policy and you will particularly signify to the Raja that he cannot expect to derive the benefit of His Lordship's intentions in his favour while his brother shall continue to observe the conduct which has justified His Lordship's suspicions and that every appearance of hostile designs on the part both of the Raja and his brother must be removed before the Governor-General will carry into effect the arrangement which His Lordship has projected for the advantage of the Raja, and you will add that it is His Lordship's desire to abstain from all interference whatever in the concerns of His Highness's Government and to leave him in the unmolested and uncontrolled exercise of independent authority

9 You will be pleased to communicate to Lieut-Colonel Wallace, Commanding the Army of the Deccan at Mulkapore, such parts of this dispatch as be necessary for his information

TO—CAPTAIN ROUGHSEGE

My Dear Sir,

The share which you had in the proceedings of Colonel Broughton on our western frontier, your personal acquaintance and communication with the principals or agents of those Chieftains and Zamindars, formerly under

the dominion of the Raja of Berar with whom Colonel Broughton concluded engagements on the part of the British Government and your general knowledge, experience and abilities have induced the Governor General to direct me to consult with you on the practicability of accomplishing an arrangement with those Chieftains and Zamindars which will admit of our restoring eventually to the Raja of Berar the districts of Sambalpoore and Patna without compromising our public faith.

2 It is unnecessary to explain to you the considerations which render the Governor General extremely anxious to have it in his power to restore these possessions. It is sufficient for the purpose of this letter to state that His Lordship is so and that in the present circumstances he would consider that object to be cheaply attained by the sacrifice of a considerable annual sum of money or by grants of land applied in the purpose of compensating the Chiefs and Zamindars with whom we have contracted engagements for the loss of their respective tenures. If they should be unwilling to maintain them under the Marhatta Government or for the deterioration of their condition by the transfer of the provinces of Sambalpoore and Patna to the authority of the Raja of Berar if they should be disposed to remain in the occupation of their respective territories.

3 The engagements having been contracted with the Chiefs and Zamindars personally and extending no further on our part than to preclude us from placing them again under the dominions of the Marhatta without their consent it may perhaps be a question whether we are not at liberty to restore the territory which they occupy to the Marhatta Government even with the consent of those Chiefs and Zamindars provided we offer them a reasonable compensation as above described and afford them in their own persons the stipulated protection. But whatever may be the merits of this question it is not the wish of the Governor General to proceed at present upon that principle. His Lordship wishes that the suggested arrangement should be the result of a negotiation between the British Government and the other parties to the existing engagements. It remains therefore to state some general remarks relative to the detail of the proposed arrangement and to the mode of conducting such a negotiation.

4 The Governor General is well aware of the decided aversion of all these Chiefs and Zamindars to the Government of the Marhattas and His Lordship concludes that no degree of pecuniary compensation promises of security against the vengeance of the Marhatta Government although guaranteed by the British Government would induce the Chiefs and Zamindars voluntarily to return under the dominion of the Marhattas and that rather than submit to the Marhatta authority they would abandon their tenures and retire within the limits of the Company's territories. That asylum the Governor General would readily consent to afford them granting them a reasonable compensation either in land or money as might be found most practicable and convenient. The amount of compensation must be regulated principally by the estimated extent of the profits which these Chiefs and Zamindars derive from their respective tenures but it ought not to be limited to that extent unless they should be content to accept it as an equivalent for what they may resign. The Governor General trusts that it would not be difficult to fix the amount of compensation if the Chiefs and Zamindars should consent to the general principle of the arrangement.

5 His Lordship now wishes that you should without delay proceed to open a negotiation with these persons upon the principles which have

been stated, unless any insuperable or very material obstacles and objections to the measure should occur to you, in which event you will state them for the consideration of His Lordship, and await his final orders

6. Perhaps the most expeditious and convenient mode of commencing such a negotiation would be by employing the services of Ferzand Ally, Colonel Broughton's agent now at Sambalpore. This point however His Lordship leaves to your judgment and discretion and you may consider yourself authorized immediately on the receipt of this letter to proceed upon the execution of this duty without further reference, unless you should deem such a reference to be necessary. But you will of course communicate to me without delay for the information of the Governor-General, the mode in which you propose to prosecute the negotiations, together with your sentiments upon the subject of your proposed arrangement. The Governor-General will be glad to be enabled to communicate to the Raja of Berar at the earliest practicable period of time his intentions with regard to Sambalpore and Patna, if there should be any probability of success in the accomplishment of the proposed arrangement. In the meantime a copy of this letter will be dispatched to the Resident at Nagpur for his information with regard to the Governor-General's wishes and intentions in favour of the Raja of Berar

Fort William.
12th September 1805

I remain, etc , etc
N B EDMONSTONE,
Secretary to Government

Letter No. 40 —The enclosure to this letter—a letter from the Governor-General to the Bhonsla—is important. It conveys the sentiments of the Governor-General towards the Bhonsla and explains his policy towards all the Indian states—a policy of non-intervention and of mutual respect.

FROM—N B. EDMONSTONE, SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

TO—M ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

Bankipore, 18th September 1805

In the 10th paragraph of my letter to you under date the 14th instant, I apprized you of the intention of the Governor-General to address a letter to the Raja of Berar in terms corresponding with the tenor of His Lordship's instructions

2 I have now the honour to transmit to you that letter together with copies in English and Persian for your information

TO—RAJA RAGHOJEE BHONSLA

18th September 1805

I reflect with a great degree of gratification and pleasure upon the perfect harmony and cordial attachment which I had the happiness to establish and maintain during my former administration of the Company's affairs in this country, between the British Government and the State of Berar

This reflection excites in my mind a sincere solicitude for your welfare and prosperity and a proportionate degree of regret at the occurrence of these events which have unavoidably occasioned the alienation of portion of your ancient dominions

You cannot be ignorant of the general principles which governed my conduct towards all the States of Hindustan and the Deccan during the period of my former administration. It was the uniform maxim of my Government to cultivate the friendship and confidence of surrounding States by abstaining from any encroachment upon their rights, privileges, and Independence and from all interference whatever in their internal concerns and in their transactions with each other and by promoting the adjustment of all depending questions upon principles of justice, equity and moderation to refrain from the prosecution of any views of conquest or extension of dominions and to limit my attention to the internal prosperity of the Company's possessions and to the happiness and tranquillity of the Company's subjects. I have returned to this country with a resolution to regulate every act of my administration by the same just and moderate principles. The States which are disposed to remain upon terms of amity with the British Government and to abstain from the prosecution of designs injurious to its interests will have no cause to apprehend any degree on our part to establish over them any degree of control or to interfere in any manner in their internal concerns.

Confiding in your disposition to maintain these amicable relations with the British Government my attention has been directed to the means of compensating to the utmost practicable extent for the losses you have sustained although the consequence of your joining in an hostile confederacy against the British power and you will be apprized by the Resident that I have actually adopted measures with a view to enable me to make that compensation to the utmost extent practicable consistently with equity and with the indispensable obligations of public faith.

It will be evident to you however that these favourable intentions must be completely frustrated by any indication on your part of a design to favour or assist the cause of the enemies of the British Government. I have lately received intelligence of some circumstances which justified a doubt of your intention in this respect. Those circumstances will be stated to you by the Resident. It is sufficient for me to intimate that the British Government must consider you to be responsible for the conduct of all your relations subjects and servants as far as it respects the British Government or its allies and that every ground of doubt and suspicion must be completely removed before the favourable intentions which I have announced to you can be carried into effect.

I trust however that the sentiments and intentions stated in this dispatch together with your knowledge of the principles which have uniformly regulated my conduct the administration of the Company's affairs will convince you of my sincere disposition to establish and maintain the relations of harmony and friendship upon the solid foundations of mutual confidence justice equity and public faith.

For further communication I refer you to the representation of the Resident.

N B EDMONSTONE

Secretary to Government

Letter No. 41.—Elphinstone reports that the Bhonsla's brother Nana Sahib was at Chanda and had changed his attitude towards the British. But he was discontented owing to the loss of his territories as a result of the treaty of Deogaon. He wanted to be compensated for his loss. The Pindaris had entered Berar and some letters sent from Manaji Holkar at Chanda inciting them to raid Nagpur had been intercepted at Multai.

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR,
TO—SIR GEORGE BARLOW, GOVERNOR-GENERAL.

Nagpur, 7th November 1805.

Though it some time since I received the melancholy intelligence of the death of Lord Cornwallis I avoided mentioning it in the idea that might be able to accompany the communication to the Raja by assurances expressly in your name of your intention to adhere to the promises contained in the late Governor-General's letter to His Highness finding however that His Excellency's decease was not likely to remain concealed I yesterday informed Jeswant Rao of it adding that although I had not yet received any instructions from you I could with perfect confidence assure the Raja that he would find you determined to carry into effect the plan communicated in the letter which I had the honour to deliver to him and perfectly well inclined to cultivate his friendship. Jeswant Rao after expressing his own sorrow for the late Noble Marquis observed that he was sure the Raja would deeply regret the loss of so great and just a man but that the opinion I had given respecting your intention would be highly satisfactory to him. He then enquired in a confidential manner whether you would adhere to Lord Wellesley's promises in favour of the Ministers to which I replied that public promises were not considered by us as of a personal nature and besides that he might depend upon it you would be as desirous as either of the Noblemen who had lately filled your station to manifest your goodwill towards all friends of the Hon'ble Company. After this subject was concluded Jeswant Rao said that the Raja had charged him to inform me that in consequence of Lord Cornwallis's doubts and my explanation of them he had sent his most confidential Minister to Chanda for the purpose of ascertaining his brother's designs and that he was happy in having it in his power to declare that all the suspicion he had entertained of Nana Sahib's intentions were now entirely removed. That in course of Shreedhar Pundit's conversations with Nana Sahib that prince had explained himself in the following manner. He said he had no quarrel with the British and if he had he was not so foolish as to imagine that he could cope with them nor so negligent as not to have observed the fates of every Chief who had opposed himself to them even of those who began the contest with far better prospects than he had. He particularized the many cases in which the firmness and perseverance of the English had enabled them to humble their enemies and then repeated that he was not weak enough to expose himself to evils of which he was so well aware but he avowed that he was dissatisfied with the Raja and that he had claims on him which he expected to be adjusted. Jeswant Rao then briefly stated Nana Sahib's discontents to arise from the loss he had suffered by the Treaty of Deogaum (the whole effects of which, he says, ought to have fallen on the Raja). I added that the Raja had informed Nana Sahib of the hopes which he entertained from the Company's friendship and had taken it upon himself to make a compensation for the losses which his brother had sustained and he concluded by informing me that Nana Sahib would send out on his return to Nagpur after a short period which would be employed in arranging his country which had been much neglected for several years.

In course of the above conversation Jeswant Rao brought in several arguments by which Nana Sahib had endeavoured very unsuccessfully to clear himself from the imputation of sending a Vakeel to Holkar and of engaging in preparation of a hostile nature. He also mentioned that Sreedhar Pundit had ascertained Nana Sahib's troops to amount to about 3,000 Gosaens and 1,000 horses in Chhattisgarh and 1,000 or 1,500 men at Chanda. I am not certain that I state the strength of the force correctly but Jeswant Rao fixed the above number for that of the Gosaens and said it had always been kept up to awe the zamindars of the country.

Jeswant Rao then renewed his application in favour of Loba Dadda who he says is confined at Anupshahr and I promised to mention his application to His Excellency Lord Lake but gave him no reason to expect that it would be successful. At a former visit Jeswant Rao had mentioned the intention of the Pindaris to attack Amraoti and stated them to have advanced to Mahalsdee 40 miles from Ellichpur with that design but that they had now fallen back and were at a place where the roads branched off to Burhanpur and Nagpur. He said that information had been obtained by Setlby, one of the Raja's Naics that they were apprized of the defenceless state of this city and were determined to attempt to plunder it and that the Raja was in consequence collecting troops on Pandhurna with utmost expedition to oppose them. I said it was extremely proper for the Raja to be on his guard but that such arrangements had been adopted by Colonel Wallace as rendered Berar perfectly safe and that the Pindaris had given no proofs of enterprise sufficient to warrant an explanation that they would venture so far into the country as Nagpur. It is however observable that if the Pindaris are anywhere near the Mahalsdee they are in the rear of the Raja's chain of troops and might send parties up to this place in consequence of which most of the better sort of people have been deterred from making the pilgrimage to Ramtek and that fair is this year thinly attended. The following circumstance was mentioned by Jeswant Rao at a former visit when the Pindaris were at the village of Ramababory a pair of Hircarras were seized at Multal carrying letters to their camp. The letters were examined and two of them were unsigned and the third bore the signature of Maunajee Holkar. The substance of all three was nearly the same information to the Pindaris that there was no troops at Nagpur invitations to advance on that town and assurances that the writer was true to his engagements and would not fail to carry the proposed arrangement into effect. The Hircarras when examined proposed ignorance of the writer of these letters but said they were delivered to them at Gerlr on the Chanda road. Mahajee Naik was immediately sent to Gerlr with a number of Hircarras to search the neighbourhood but made no discoveries. I have not heard any satisfactory reason for the irruption of the Pindaris subsequent to their treaty with the Raja. Jeswant Rao states that they have not yet heard of the Raja's agreeing to what was proposed by them. At the last visit Jeswant Rao mentioned that Goojaba had been heard of at Sheoni near Hooshingabad that place not being in the Bhonsla's dominions he halted there and entertained 25 horses. Jeswant Rao said he was certainly going to join Serjee Rao Ghatky.

The secret intelligence I have received and the common reports of Nagpur confirm the account given by Jeswant Rao of the causes of Nana Sahib's discontents. It is commonly believed that Nana Sahib claims a compensation from his brother on the ground that he never had a share of the additions made by the Raja to his hereditary dominions and therefore ought not to partake of his losses. That his original Jageer of 3,00,000 rupees is so much less by the cession of the Sambalpore and the part of Berar adjoining to Chanda that he has not a sufficiency for his support and that unless the Raja will make a more ample provision for him he will be obliged to enter

into some service to enable him to maintain himself and his dependents and the service to which his views are directed is commonly believed to be that of Holkar. It is sufficiently evident that whatever may have been Nana Sahib's plans he has given no proof of his intention to lay them aside except some conditional provisions to Shreedhar Pundit. As he has not accompanied that Minister to Nagpur, it is probable that he wishes to be put in possession of some addition to his Jagheer before he returns or if he entertained a design of joining Holkar he may wish to see the result of that Chief's first operations before he comes to my determination.

Letter No. 42.—Elphinstone is asked to ascertain the attitude of Nana Saheb towards his brother and the British Government. He is informed of the negotiations going on with the Sindhia and of the intentions of the Holkar. The enclosure contains instructions to Captain Roughsedge that may be helpful in dealing with the situation of Patna and Sambalpur provinces as a result of the attitude of Nana Saheb.

FROM—N. B. EDMONSTONE, SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

TO—M. ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

Allahabad, 15th November 1805

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your several dispatches of the dates and numbers noted below —

No 71, dated the 22nd August

No 1, dated the 4th September.

To the Secy, dated the 9th September

No 2, dated the 22nd September

To Secy, dated the 3rd October

No. 3, dated the 7th October.

No 4, dated the 10th October.

No 5, dated the 15th October

No. 6, dated the 18th October

2 The general tenor of your communications to the Raja and his Ministers in your several conferences with them are entirely approved by the Hon'ble the Governor-General

3. The subject of your dispatches which appears to the Governor-General principally to require notice is that which relates to the proceedings of Nana Saheb,

4 The Governor-General is disposed to believe that the Raja has no concern in the measures and proceedings of his brother and that the alleged disagreement between them actually exists. The Governor-General is also disposed to believe that the Raja has sincerely endeavoured to dissuade his brother from the prosecution of the measures whatever they may be, which he appears to have in contemplation.

5 If the object of Nana Sahib should be to render himself independent of his brother it is to be expected that the Raja will be disposed to employ a force against him unless he should doubt his own power to reduce his brother to obedience and if Nana Sahib should actually establish his independence it would be equally unprofitable and unjust to render the Raja responsible for any acts of his brother affecting the rights of the British Government and its allies. In such case Nana Sahib would stand towards the British Government in the relation of an independent State. But until this state of facts shall actually have occurred the British Government is justified in considering the Raja of Berar responsible for his brother's acts as far as they respect to the interests of the British Government and its allies.

6 With reference to this supposed state of facts the following cases are to be considered —

1st—Nana Sahib may continue to embody troops for the sole purpose of establishing his independence and without any intention of invading the provinces of Sambalpur and Patna or of directing his force against the Company's possessions.

2nd—His object may be to combine with the establishment of his independence of the seizure of the provinces of Sambalpur and Patna and the invasion of Cuttack.

7 In the former case the only question which arises with regard to the British Government is whether the negotiation with the Zamindars of Patna and Sambalpur shall be prosecuted and upon this subject I am directed to observe that the proposed arrangement with regard to those provinces is founded not only upon the disposition of the British Government to augment the territorial dominion of the Raja of Berar but also upon a desire to relieve the British Government from the inconvenient obligation to extend its protection to those distant countries. In the case under consideration it may be doubted whether the Raja of Berar could derive any benefit from the proposed transfer. But the object of avoiding the necessity of protecting those provinces render it advisable in the judgment of the Governor General to press the negotiation. It is under the impression of this sentiment that the instructions of the 4th inst. to Captain Roughedge a copy of which is enclosed for your information have been issued.

8 With regard to the second consideration above stated if Nana Sahib should proceed to the invasion of Sambalpur or Patna before the proposed arrangement with the Zamindars shall have been completed it will remain for decision whether the British Government should proceed to act against Nana Sahib as against a public enemy or offer to the Zamindars with whom engagements were concluded asylum and provision within the British Territories.

9 Until you shall have reason to be completely satisfied that Nana Sahib is acting without the concurrence of the Raja I am directed to observe that it will be proper you should induce the Raja to believe that he will be held responsible for his brother's acts as far as they respect the rights of the British Government and its allies according to the instructions already in your possession but the Governor General does not deem it proper that under any circumstances you should proceed to the length of quitting the Raja's Court or of requiring the advance of Colonel Wallace's army towards the frontier of his territory without further instructions.

10 In the present reduced condition of the Raja's power he may be unable to suppress the rebellion of his brother and the consciousness of his weakness may induce him to remain inactive although his brother should be actually in a state of rebellion. The Raja's inactivity, therefore, will not necessarily constitute any evidence of his participation or concurrence in his brother's schemes. Upon this point, however, your information will enable you to form a more correct judgment.

11 The intelligence contained in your dispatches is corroborated by that which has been transmitted by Captain Roughsedge from which it appears to be certain that a considerable force is actually assembled at Ruttunpore and is continually augmenting apparently under the direction of Nana Sahib.

12 I am directed to observe that your reply to the Raja's proposition of becoming a mediator for the settlement of differences between the British Government and Dowlat Rao Sindia as reported in your dispatch No. 4 dated 10th ultimo was perfectly proper.

13 You will have been apprized by my dispatch of the 13th ultimo of the state of the negotiation with Dowlat Rao Sindia. It is superfluous to add that the Raja's mediation is entirely inadmissible.

14 With reference to that part of your dispatch above mentioned which relates the substance of your conference with the Raja and his Minister on the subject of a pacification with Holkar, I am directed to inform you that the British Government is prepared to grant to that Chieftain terms of accommodation founded on the basis of his restoration to a part of his former possessions whenever such an accommodation can be combined with reasonable security for his observance of a pacific line of conduct towards the British Government and its allies and that the most active measures are in progress with a view either to compel Holkar to accede to such terms or to effect the complete extinction of his power. This intimation will enable you to meet similar enquiries on any future occasion.

15 Holkar is engaged in endeavouring to induce the Sikh Chieftains to join his cause, but he has met with no encouragement and the military dispositions of the Right Hon'ble Lord Lake are calculated to preclude the practicability of Holkar's return towards Hindostan or towards the northern part of the Doab without recounting a British force.

16 The Army under the command of Major-General Jones has taken up a position in the Sheikhavuttee to the northward of Jaipore. A considerable force under Lieut-Colonel Burns was by the latest accounts in pursuit of Holkar's infantry and guns in a direction northwest of Delhi. Major-General Dowdeswell with a large detachment occupies a position in the Doab near Panipat and the Right Hon'ble Lord Lake with a large body of Cavalry, Infantry and guns had advanced by the latest advices to the vicinity of Delhi.

17 Sindia by the latest advices was proceeding to Ajmer which forms a part of his dominion. Moonshee Kavil Nyne who is in attendance upon the Right Hon'ble Lord Lake, has been vested with full powers on the part of Sindia to conclude an adjustment of all pending questions with the British Government and there is every reason to expect a speedy and satisfactory conclusion of the negotiation under instructions for that purpose with which His Lordship has been furnished by the Governor-General. In the mean time a perfect amity and good understanding subsists between the British Government and that Chieftain.

18 In reply to that part of your dispatch of the 10th ultimo which states the wish of the Minister Shreedhar Pundit that when letters are addressed to the Raja by the Governor General letters to a similar purport should be addressed to him I am directed to inform you that the Governor General will readily comply with the request provided any letter from the Raja to the Governor General be first accompanied by an address from the Minister. The Minister cannot reasonably expect that the Governor General should commence a correspondence of that nature with a person in the minister's inferior situation.

19 I am further directed to inform you that the Raja's ministers having now consented to receive the pensions proposed to be granted to them by the British Government with the knowledge and consent of the Raja the necessary orders will be issued for giving effect to the proposed arrangement when the Governor General's mind shall be relieved of all doubt and suspicion with regard to the designs of the Raja. Until that time it is not reasonable to expect that the British Government should incur the expense of the proposed pensions and it may be proper that you should intimate to the Minister that those pensions will not have a retrospective operation.

20 The Governor General entirely approves the whole of your proceedings as communicated in your several dispatches.

21 The Governor General is disposed to believe the report which you received from the Raja's ministers with regard to the facts and circumstances of the flight of His Highness's nephew Goojabba.

TO—CAPTAIN ROUGHSFEDGE

SIR

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatch of the 6th instant in reply to the instructions of Government contained in my letter of the 26th ultimo and to state to you the sentiments and instructions which your communications have suggested.

2 The principal points for determination are—

First—Whether the designs of Nana Sahib against Sambalpoore and Patna supposing that he actually entertains those designs in concert with the Mahratta Officers in Ruttanpoore should effect the prosecution of the measures prescribed by the Governor General's Instructions of the 26th ultimo for the purpose of enabling the British Government to transfer those provinces to the Raja of Berar.

Second—Whether the disposable part of the Ramghur Battalion should proceed to Sambalpoore with reference either to the prosecution of those measures or to the protection of Sambalpoore and Patna or to both those objects.

3 The only apparent objection to the prosecution of the prescribed measures with respect to the provinces of Sambalpoore and Patna under our knowledge of the supposed views of Nana Sahib originates in the bad effect which may be supposed to result from our ostensible adherence to the original design of transferring those provinces to the Raja of Berar as an act of grace at the moment when we have reason to believe that the Raja's brother entertains the design of taking possession of them by force of arms especially as the Raja (although he professes his disapprobation of the conduct of his brother and his inability to restrain it) has been distinctly apprized that the British Government will consider him to be responsible

for his brother's acts. The actual prosecution of his design on the part of Nana Sahib may tend to counteract the impression and the benefit of our liberality while it annihilates the ground on which the Government of Berar can be considered to possess any pretension to the proposed indulgence and violates the condition on which the accomplishment of our favourable intentions with regard to the Raja has been declared to depend and consequently the prosecution of those favourable intentions under such circumstances may be ascribed to the effects of our apprehension rather than of our liberality. This objection however applies to the actual execution of those intentions rather than to the prosecution of the measures preparatory to it.

4 It cannot be assumed as a positive fact that Nana Sahib entertains these hostile designs and at all events it is not probable that he will hazard the consequences of any hostile attempts unless encouraged by a very unfavourable aspect of our affairs. The proposed arrangement may be relinquished at any stage of its progress, if circumstances should render it necessary to revoke the intended liberality of the British Government. The Governor-General is anxious to be at liberty to carry that arrangement into effect upon the double principle of conciliating the Raja of Berar and of relieving the British Government from the inconvenience of extending its protection to such distant limits as those of Sambalpoore and Patna and is therefore unwilling to retard the prosecution of the measures preparatory to the accomplishment of the proposed arrangement under appearances which may or may not be realized and which until realized do not in the judgment of the Governor-General oppose any objection to the prosecution of those preparatory measures.

5 The Governor-General's further of opinion that the evidence which the prosecution of those measures will afford of our desire to transfer the provinces in question to the Raja of Berar, may have the effect of putting a stop to any design on the part either of the Raja of Berar or his brother to attempt the occupation of those provinces by force of arms.

6 For these reasons the Governor-General deems it advisable that you should prosecute your journey towards Sambalpoore for the purpose of entering upon the prescribed negotiation. As you advance you will be able to obtain more accurate intelligence and the nature of that intelligence will afford the means of regulating the Governor-General's future instructions to you for the guidance of your conduct.

7 With regard to the second question stated at the commencement of this dispatch whether the disposable part of the Ramghur Battalion should proceed to Sambalpoore, I am directed to signify to you that advert- ing to the deficiency of troops in the south-eastern provinces, the Governor-General is very averse to the measure of authorizing the march of the Ramghur Battalion to such a distance as Sambalpoore.

8 The effectual protection of Sambalpoore and Patna against the alleged designs of Nana Sahib would probably require a force of much greater extent than that of the disposable part of the Ramghur Battalion. But at all events it would be imprudent to expose that limited detachment to the hazard of resisting a force such as is stated to be collecting on the part of the Mahratta and as the designs imputed to Nana Sahib appear to be combined with the project of invading the Company's territories by the route of Sonapore or perhaps by a more northern route, the actual prosecution of those designs would probably require on our part, arrangements of a different and more extensive nature than that of dispatching a small detachment to Sambalpoore, and such as might require the disposable part of the Ramghur Battalion in another situation.

9 Another objection to the march of that detachment to Sambalpoore appears to be that if the designs imputed to Nana Sahib actually exist this measure will manifest our suspicion of those designs which for the reason already stated it is not advisable to declare.

10 The Governor General is not aware of the necessity of your being attended by the disposable part of the Ramghur Battalion merely for the purpose of conducting the prescribed negotiation which does not appear to involve any objects either of a defensive or offensive nature. It will of course be proper however that you should be accompanied by a small escort as proceeding upon a mission on the part of the British Government. In the event of an actual invasion of the province of Sambalpoore or Patna in prosecution of the design imputed to Nana Sahib it would be improper that you should proceed and under any circumstances the Governor General trusts that you can have no difficulty in providing for your safety by a retreat. It appears however to the Governor General to be extremely imprudent that under any circumstances whatever the Mahratta troops should attempt to molest you, especially as the avowed object of your mission is of a nature favourable to the Government of Berar.

11 Orders will be issued to the Collector of Behar directing him to advance for your use the sum of 20 000 rupees agreeably to your suggestion.

12 The Governor-General desires that you will continue to correspond regularly with the Resident at Nagpoore on all points connected with the objects of your mission.

13 The persons whom you state to have been apprehended in the district of Kheriar may as you suggest be hereafter delivered up to the Subahdar of Ruttanpoore.

14 You will be pleased to transmit a duplicate of all your dispatches to me to the Presidency for the information of the Honble the Vice-President in Council.

I have the honour to be

Sir

Your most obedient humble servant

ALLAHABAD

Th 11th November 1805

N B EDMONSTONE

Secretary to Government

Letter No 43—Elphinstone reports the conversation he had with some of the principal officers of the Raja regarding the cession of certain territories and also the movements, depredations and activities of the Pindaris.

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL

Nagpur 25th November 1805

Having wrote to Jeswant Rao to enquire after some of his family who had been surrendered by the Pindaries in Condailee he came on the 20th to inform me of their being relieved and having arrived in this neighbourhood. He also mentioned that intelligence had been received from Pounar

(55 miles south-west of Nagpore) of the Pindaries having appeared in that neighbourhood and that the Raja was in consequence about to make every exertion to collect a force to the southward of his capital. At this visit, I took advantage of something he said about the restoration of the Raja's possessions, to remark that I was afraid he had entertained some mistaken notions about the intended restoration I was led to that opinion by what he said about a letter to the Nizam. It was not incumbent on me to enter into any explanations on the subject as Lord Cornwallis had himself (?) his intentions to the Raja, who I had no doubt understood them, perfectly, but that I was desirous to give him (Jeswant Rao) all the light I myself possessed regarding His Lordship's design, I said I was confident that His Excellency, though anxious to show his friendship for the Raja, by as much liberality as was just and reasonable had never entertained thought of taking the Nizam's country from him, or of otherwise altering the state of India, that His Lordship would no doubt have specified to the Raja, the territory which he meant to give, had it not been, that the cession did not depend entirely on himself and consequently he could not be certain what country he would assign to the Raja although he was determined to make some addition to his territories. Jeswant Rao saying something about His Lordship's profession of desire to restore the Raja to his ancient power, I said that Lord Cornwallis had declared his designs in the Raja's favour to be limited by justice and good faith, and had alluded to the cause of the reduction of the Raja's power, a consideration which could not be forgotten in determining the amount of territory which was to be restored. I observed that Lord Cornwallis had said little to me about his intentions, besides what was contained in his letter to the Raja, and that you had simply confirmed His Excellency's promise without either modifying or explaining it, but that the remark I had made appeared to me to be necessary, and that I had communicated them to prevent misconception on his part. Jeswant Rao thanked me, and said I might depend on his not divulging what I had said, to which I replied by saying that I had no doubt the Raja understood Lord Cornwallis' letter as well as I did, but that I wished Jeswant Rao to entertain what I had said to make everything as clear as possible. Jeswant Rao then asked whether any answer had been received to my reference, respecting his (Shreedhar Pundit's) pensions, and went on to say that Shreedhar Pundit was particularly desirous of having land in the Company's territories and if possible about Benares instead of payments in money that he also was desirous of such an arrangement, and they would be very grateful if it could be carried into effect, to this I answered that I would report their wishes, but that I remembered Sir Arthur Wellesley's objections to giving him lands in the British Provinces, and that I imagine the reasons for that refusal were still in force. Jeswant Rao begged me to state Shreedhar Pundit's wish and added that if the pension could not be given in land, Shreedhar Pundit was desirous that he might have such sunnuds as would secure his pension to him under any changes. To this I answered that such sunnuds would be granted as he himself had received for his present pension.

On the 22nd I received a letter from Colonel Wallace, of which I had the honour to forward a copy to the Secretary in the Political Department. It appeared from that dispatch that all the Pindaries retired into the Raja's country, and I thought it probable they would continue on the frontier making invasions in such parts of the one country as they saw ungarded, and retiring into the other on the approach of any force sent to pursue them. It seemed very desirable that the Officer Commanding the Army of the Deccan, should have it in his power to attack them while preparing for an incursion, and to prevent their lying the Nizam's frontier. I therefore sent a message to Jeswant Rao informing him of the repulse of the Pindaries

from Berar and requesting to know whether it would be agreeable to the Raja if the British Troops were to follow the Pindaries into His Highness's dominions, adding that I did not know whether Col Wallace would be desirous of doing so but wished to be informed in time of His Highness's sentiments on the subject. Jeswant Rao said he had no doubt the Raja would readily agree to the armies entering his dominions, at the same time he expressed his apprehension that the Nizam's Troops might not be so orderly and inoffensive as he was sure the British would be. Jeswant Rao described the main body of the Pindaries to be at Tullygaon Dussaparra and their designs to be against Nagpur. Next morning early Jeswant Rao and Jalkishin Rao came to me and informed me that the Raja was much pleased at the prospect of the Company's Troops following the Pindaries that he had perfect confidence in the British Officers and would be very happy if they would pursue the Pindaries even up to Nagpur. Jeswant Rao then went on to say that the present was a very favourable occasion for destroying the formidable band of plunderers that Sindia had given orders to his officers at Seoni to attack them that he had 3000 men and was soon to be joined by Jaggoa Bapoo who was at Shahjahanpoor with an Army that Sindia had applied to the Raja to prevent their escaping through the hills that His Highness accordingly intended to exert himself against them being sensible that their power and confidence was rapidly increasing and that if they were not speedily checked there would be no safety for any regular Government that the Pindaries had now attacked countries under the protection of the British and had avowed an intention of laying waste the country up to Hyderabad that if they were allowed to go unpunished they would never let slip an opportunity of attacking Berar and that if they were vigorously pressed now they must soon be destroyed. He dwelt particularly on the circumstance of their wealth and families being lodged in Flundia and said if that place were once reduced their power would be entirely broken. He mentioned that the Pindaries had offered to restore Sindia's country and join his Army but that he had rejected their offer.

The following is as correct an account as I can obtain of the late incursion of the Pindaries. These plunderers issued from the hills at Sautnree and Aubnand and moved directly on Amraoti. I have reason to think that they were not so successful in plundering Dewalwarra as I before stated them to have been on their repulse from Amraoti they retired to Coorra Mangrool on the Wardha they then broke into small parties, some of which moving north destroyed the village of Tuesa and committed depredations on those of Solbany Carinja Kondhali Digras Dorkee Panjree, Selgaon Huttee Sindawarnee but the greater part moved south and partially plundered the villages of Arvi Dcori Nachangaon Anji Bounair Loni Tullygaon Dussaparra Wauheegaon Alipore etc. Some of their parties ravaged the country round Geerar destroyed the village of Wagholy and sent a few horse up to Couce 16 miles south-east of Nagpur. Nana Sahib's Paugah consisting of 400 horse is also said to have been plundered at Ningun Ghat where it was stationed. The farthest point to the southward where I have heard of the Pindaries appearing is Vaince Kotta (in the Nizam's country) which place and Wanory in its neighbourhood they attacked six days ago. It is reported that they went as far as Rallygaon but I do not know with what truth the greater part of them certainly assembled somewhere to the south of Karanja encamped 3 Coss north of that place on the 20th when their parties again advanced to Kondhali it appears to have been their intention at that time to re-enter Berar and penetrate to the hills north of Ellichpore but Salabat Khan having taken up a position which prevented their doing so and being

alarmed by the approach of the British Cavalry under Colonel Doveton, they changed their plan and retired by Palsinga, Nencare and the Ghats east of Salburdy towards Multai. A few of their stragglers fell into the hands of the Raja's officers, and I believe were put to death. The Pindaries appear to have advanced with great rapidity on this inroad, and to have retreated at a very moderate rate for two days, that I have certain information of their motions, they do not appear to have marched more than 12 or 14 miles a day. On their advance, they took nothing but valuable articles, but as they were going off, they appear to have loaded themselves with pillage and carried off many women and such prisoners as they thought would pay a large ransom. They forced the villagers to carry their plunder, and seized many cattle for the same purpose, several hundreds of which with their least valuable booty, they abandoned at Paulsingy. The party which made this incursion are commanded by the nephew of Seetoo. They are said to be remarkably well mounted and armed with swords and spears, firearms being rare among them; they are also described as being very alert and paying largely for intelligences. They made little impression on the walled places, they attacked but have committed great cruelties in the defenceless villages, on which they made any stay, putting the inhabitants to torture to make them discover where their wealth was concealed. The Raja's country is said to have suffered materially from the incursions though it only lasted 8 days. At the time when the Pindaries were to the southward, there was the greatest alarm and confusion in Nagpur, which was increased by the people, who crowded in from the villages near the City and spread exaggerated accounts of the appearance of the Pindaries in their neighbourhood. The Raja began to call in his troops that were out foraging from the time the Pindaries came to Berar but he seems to have greatly increased his exertions since they appeared to the southward. He then ordered the Army at Chappara to march to this place and sent a Treasure to pay part of the arrears of the troops without which it is probable they would not have moved. He directed the party which had assembled at Bazargaon to march to Kondhali, Barry, where they were joined by some reinforcements from Nagpur with five guns. Amrut Rao, the Raja's principal Buckshee, pitched his tents on the 19th about a quarter of a mile from this place, and the Raja has spent the greater part of his time ever since in endeavouring to persuade his troops to move out to join the Buckshee. It is a strong proof of the weakness and irregularity of his Government that though there are 4,000 men in Nagpur, the Raja has not hitherto been able to collect more than 700 or 800 and a great part of those, return every night into the city. At this period, when he was under most apprehensions, my secret intelligence represented the Raja's having been divided between a project of formally inviting the Company's assistance, and a plan for pacifying the Pindaries with further cessions. On this last head a serious difference is said to have arisen between Shreedhar Pundit and the Raja, the former having pointed out in severe terms, the folly of relying on the faith of such unprincipled robbers and strongly urged His Highness to pay his troops, and trust the safety of his country to a more becoming line of policy. In consequence of his dispute Shreedhar Pundit was absent from the Durbar for some days. He has now returned and the Raja appears to be inclined to adopt the measures which the Minister is said to have recommended, though it is reported that he is again negotiating with the Pindaries.

You will observe Hon'ble Sir, from my letters to Colonel Wallace of which copies have been transmitted to the Political Secretary that the Raja has so disposed his troops as to oppose any future inroad, and that he is extremely desirous of the co-operation and assistance of our troops.

in disabling the Pindaries from renewing their incursions. Whatever use is made of his invitation it affords a satisfactory proof of his reliance on the character of our officers and his confidence on the good conduct and discipline of the British Troops

Letter No 44 — Phipinstone intimates the intention of the Bhonsia to compensate his brother Nana Sahib for the losses he has suffered by the Treaty of Deogron. The activities of Nana Sahib in suppressing the Raja of Sohagpur and the movements of the Pindaris under their leaders, are mentioned

FROM— M Phipinstone RESIDENT AT NAGPUR
TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL.

Nagpur, 10th December 1805

I had formerly the honour to report to you that Jeswant Rao had informed me of the Raja's intention of making some compensation to Nana Sahib for his losses by the Treaty of Deogaon. I have since heard that His Highness has granted him the pergunnahs of Maungaon and Wanor in addition to what he had before. The Raja still continues to say that Nana Sahib will return immediately to Nagpur, and has only been prevented by the incursions of the Pindaries from doing so before. My accounts from Ratanpore represent the report of his intended journey to have abated. They further state most of the Gosains to have moved from that quarter towards Chanda either by order from Nana Sahib or for the purpose of demanding their pay. Nana Sahib is said to have been lately engaged in a petty expedition against Sohagpur of which the following are the particulars —

About four years ago Nana Sahib undertook an expedition at the Raja of Berar's instigation against Govindjee the Raja of Sohagpur whom he took prisoner and released immediately before the war with us on certain conditions all of which the Baghela broke. Since that time I believe there have been predatory incursions on both sides and about the end of September Nana Sahib began to form a corps of Paurdani near Amerkantak which at last amounted to near 2000 men and was commanded by Hybat Rao Gywut. This force lately made an attempt to penetrate into Sohagpur country through a defile beyond Amarkantak but were repulsed and are now at the foot of the pass. It is said in Ratanpur that they are now ordered with all the troops at that place and eleven guns to assemble on Rypur but this measure had not actually taken place. The officers at Ratanpore are recruiting slowly but they are said to be busied in preparing stores and collecting grain. The force there may be 500 horse and 500 foot under a Jemadar named Dhan Singh. He has had orders to complete his corps to 1000 men but has not been given money for the purpose. Nana Sahib is reported to have from 1,500 to 2000 men at Jubbulpore on the Nerbudda. Some of his troops have been there for money matters but I have not been able to ascertain for what purpose they are intended.

Ballajee Eswant Sindia's Vakceel and Atma Ram Paugnavees have at least obtained the Raja's leave to quit Nagpur and are soon to proceed on their journey. Their intrigues have always been represented by the Raja's ministers as the cause of all the disturbances which have lately

arisen in this country, and such conduct is very consistent with the character and principles of this Government. It is probable that the statements of the ministers are well founded. They further represent these persons, that one of them is a public minister of Sindia, as being guided in their plots by Serjee Rao Ghatkey.

I have certain intelligence from Ujjain of the arrival of Goojabba at that place and of his having visited Khandojee Hoozia, Sindia's principal officer there and declared his intention of proceeding to the Camp of the Chief. By the same accounts, it appears that Ghatkey has returned from the neighbourhood of Ruttlam to near Mandsoor. Juggoba Baupoo is stated to be at no great distance from him, but no expedition appears to be entertained of his attacking him. Jee Lal and Kamroojee Bijewar appear to have separated from Serjee Rao. I understand they are near Kanpore. A force represented as amounting to 10,000 men but probably much weaker, was about 20 days ago at Newree near Kanojee, between Ujjain and Nerbudda. It is commanded by Jotiba Manica, Dost Mohammed, the son of Keroo Pindarra, and Kadir Boksh, the son of Burrun Pindarra. Jotiba gives out that he is sent by Sindia to attack Berar. Another report is, that he is sent to deliver Sindia's country from the Pindaries. It is however most generally believed that he is an adventurer, who intends to join the Pindaries. Seetoo is at Jelouda, near Hundia with a small party. He has also a party near Seoni and Hoshangabad, besides that which lately attacked Berar which is represented as a considerable portion of his whole force.

Karim is at Ashtah, west of Bhopal. There are reports of his intending to cross the Nerbudda, but he has not yet made any movement which indicates such a design.

The Raja's army from Chapara has arrived at Kamptee and another Corps of about 2,000 men with 4 Guns is somewhere near Kondhali, it is meant to be stationed at Katol, a place about 30 miles north-east of Nagpore, but the Raja seems unable to move his troops to their intended posts for want of money. I have informed the Raja's ministers of such parts of the orders transmitted to me in Mr Edmonstone's dispatches dated November as we redirected to be communicated to them.

I have done myself the honour of transmitting to the Persian Secretary to the Raja of Berar's letter and Khareeta from him, requesting your acceptance of some clothes and jewels and of an elephant which he has sent to Allahabad.

The Raja's letter is accompanied by one from Shreedhar Pundit wrote at my suggestion, and one from Jeswant Rao.

P. S.—Since I wrote the above I have received a visit from Jeswant Rao, who came to show me a note from a person calling himself Beem Rao Chitnavese to Serjee Rao Ghatkey to the Raja of Berar. It was dated Goomgaon south of Nagpur and states that the writer had been sent by Holkar and his master for the purposes which he would explain personally. Jeswant Rao said that the Raja was to receive Bheem Rao tonight and would inform me of the object of his mission, and he declared that the Raja regarded Serjee Rao with due detestation, and would be happy if he could be seized in the manner which Sindia had suggested. I will endeavour to find out the motive of this mission and submit to your accounts I receive which appear to be correct.

Letter No 45 —The letter conveys Governor-General's approval of the replies of Elphinstone to the queries of the Bhonsla regarding the termination of the treaties of the Company with the Peshwa and the Nizam, the restoration of Sambalpur and Patna to him, and the policy of the British Government towards the country powers in general. The grant of an enhanced pension to some of the Bhonsla's ministers is intimated and also the satisfaction of the Governor-General for the permission granted by the Raja to the British troops to enter his territories to drive out the Pindaris.

FROM—N B EDMONSTON SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT
TO—M H PHINSTON RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

Allahabad 20th December 1805.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your several dispatches to the address of the Hon ble the Governor General and to that of the Secretary of the dates and numbers noted below —

No 1 dated 7th November
No 2 dated 10th November
No 3 dated 12th November
No 4 dated 17th November
To Secretary dated 23rd November
No 5 dated 25th November
To Secretary dated 25th November

2 The Governor General highly approves the tenor of your communications to the Raja as described in your dispatches Nos 1 and 2 on the subject of the general principles of policy which you justly concluded would regulate the conduct of the Hon ble the Governor General towards the state of Nagpur and you will have observed the coincidence of those communications with the contents of the Governor General's letters to the Raja of the 19th October. The Governor General particularly approves the judgment with which you replied to the Raja's question, whether it has been in the contemplation of the late Governor General Marquis Cornwallis to dissolve the alliance with Poona and Hyderabad and the Governor General desires that you will upon all occasions regulate your language to the Court of Nagpur according to the principles of policy which you have so accurately stated to be those which govern the conduct of the British Government.

3 The explanations which you afforded to Jeswant Rao and Jalkishan Rao of the meaning and intent of the late Governor General's letter to the Raja were perfectly proper and you availed with much judgment any explicit intimation of the intentions of the British Government in his favour which the Governor General wishes to suspend until the result of the measures in progress for the restoration of the provinces of Sambalpur and Patna to the dominion of the Raja shall be known. The Governor General is satisfied that the Raja and his Ministers have not understood the expressions contained in the late Governor General's letter in the extended sense in which they affect to understand them and that the object of their remarks was to draw from you a disclosure of the specific intentions of the British Government in the Raja's favour.

4 The result of Sreedhar Pundit's mission to Chaoda combined with the information which the Governor General has received relative to the supposed proceedings of Nana Sahib and with the general conduct no

designs of the nature ascribed to Nana Sahib are entertained by him and that the Raja has had no concern with the proceedings and the views of his brother whatever they may have been. The Governor-General therefore now deems it proper in conformity to the intimation contained in the 19th paragraph of my dispatch of the 15th instant to grant the pensions originally proposed in favour of Shreedhar Pundit, Jeswant Rao Ramchander and Jaikishan Rao, viz, 30,000 rupees per annum to Shreedhar Pundit, an addition of 9,000 rupees per annum to the pension already granted to Jeswant Rao Ramchander to complete the amount of 15,000 rupees and 6,000 rupees per annum to Jaikishan Rao. The consent of the Raja to their acceptance of these pensions has now connected the grant of them with the general question of compensation to the Raja, whose losses by the war have been greatly disproportionate to those of Dowlat Rao Sindia, and whose good will it is peculiarly desirable to cultivate. Upon those grounds as well as with a view to secure an influence in the counsels of the Raja of Berar, the Governor-General considers the immediate grant of those pensions to be a measure of wise policy and you will accordingly consider yourself authorized to give effect to that arrangement from the commencement of the ensuing year. This measure will tend to satisfy the Raja and his ministers of the sincerity of the Governor-General's disposition to pursue the line of conduct explained to the Raja by the late Marquis Cornwallis and to adhere to principles which you have so correctly stated to the Court of Nagpur.

5 In communicating this resolution to the Raja you will, of course, give His Highness to understand that the grants of these pensions constitutes a part of the promised compensation and that it is a concession founded on the complete satisfaction which the Governor-General's mind has desired from his late conduct and assurances with regard to the sincerity of his desire to maintain and improve the relations of friendship and cordiality with the British Government, and of his entire renunciation of every project of a nature injurious to our interests or those of our allies. You will at the same time confirm the assurances which the Raja has already received of the determination of the British Government to regulate its conduct towards His Highness by those principles of justice, moderation and liberality which it has lately manifested.

6 The expediency of carrying into effect the proposed compensation at this period of time is augmented by the arrangements lately concluded with Dowlat Rao Sindia under which that Chieftain desires considerable territorial and pecuniary advantages.

7 It may be expected that the Raja will urge a comparison of his general conduct towards the British Government, with that Dowlat Rao Sindia. He may assert with justice that Sindia is the principal aggressor in the war with the British power and that he subsequently proceeded to acts of positive hostility against the British Government by joining the enemy. That he has suffered greater comparative privations than Sindia by the result of the previous war, and that his own conduct since its termination has been consistent with the obligations of neutrality and upon this comparison, the Raja may found a claim to a greater extent of compensation than that which has been granted to Sindia. He may infer that Sindia has derived greater advantages from pursuing a course of conduct decidedly and openly hostile to the British Government, than he himself is led to expect from a different line of policy and may be disposed to believe, that he would have obtained greater benefits and concessions by imitating Sindia's conduct. Without admitting the justice of these reflections in their fullest extent, the probability of their occurring to the Raja's mind combined with the real facts of the case furnishes an additional argument

in favour of the expediency and even the justice of affording to the Raja at the present moment the proposed compensation not only with reference to its extent but also as an evidence of the intention and the disposition of the British Government in His Highness's favour

8 It may be proper however that you should be prepared to meet observations on the part of the Raja of the nature above described by observing to him if the occasion should arise, that Sindia was misguided by the artifices and impelled by the violence and ambition of Serjee Rao Ghautka that his submission to the influence and ascendancy of that profligate minister far from promoting his advantage had involved his affairs in the extremity of distress and confusion and that he had ultimately dismissed his minister for the measure which had produced it

9 That if Sindia had adhered to the obligation of his alliance with the Company and abided by the counsel of the wiser and more respectable Chieftains of his court he would have avoided the destruction of his resources and the extreme pecuniary embarrassments to which he has been subjected by the ruinous and disgraceful policy of Ghautka and his Government would have acquired a degree of vigour and stability which a long course of prudent management and uninterrupted prosperity can now alone establish That his conduct therefore has produced much more injury than benefit to his affairs and affords an example to deter rather than to follow and that on the ground of public honour and pride of character the Raja cannot creditably regret that he has abstained from imitating the treacherous and abandoned policy of Serjee Rao Ghautka

10 In announcing to the ministers the grant of the pensions it may be proper to give them to understand that those pensions will be liable to resumption if the considerations which have induced the grant of them should ever cease to operate

11 In conformity to the suggestion contained in a private letter from you to my address of the 20th ultimo I am directed to inform you that upon the principle of affording to the Raja every practicable compensation it is in the contemplation of the Governor General to endeavour to obtain the consent of His Highness the Soubahdar of the Deccan to the cession of the lands which he possesses on the east side of the Wardha to the Raja of Berar whether the measures now in progress for the restoration of Sambalpoore and Patna are attended with success or not You will not however at present make any communication to the Raja upon this subject

12 The Governor General has observed with great satisfaction the disposition of the Raja to admit the British troops into his country in pursuit of the Pindaries which the Governor General considers to afford a manifest proof of His Highness's confidence and of his desire to cultivate and improve the relations of amity and concord now established between the two States

13 The Governor General entirely approves the tenor of the letters which you addressed to Colonel Wallace and Lieut Colonel Doveton under dates 22nd, 23rd and 24th ultimo copies of which were communicated in your letters to my address of the 23rd and 25th ultimo I am directed however to apprise you that in consequence of the late satisfactory adjustment of all points of difference between the British Government and Dowlat Rao Sindia and of the general situation of affairs in India the Governor General has thought proper to issue orders for withdrawing the subsidiary forces of Poona and Hyderabad into cantonments The Governor General is not aware of the necessity of maintaining the

force under Colonel Wallace in the field for the purpose of opposing the progress of the Pindaries who have lately invaded the territories of the Soubahdar of the Deccan and the Raja of Berar. From the information contained in your dispatch it is evident that the troops of the former are capable of opposing the Pindaris with success, and the latter has no claim upon us for the protection of his country. It appears also from your information and that which has been derived from other quarters that Sindia is taking the most active measures for the purpose of suppressing these marauders.

Letter No 46.—The letter refers to the arrival of Saiji Rao Ghatgay's agent Bhim Rao at Nagpur to induce the Bhonsla to join a confederacy against the British and to pay a sum of five lacs. Further the mutual relations of the Pindari leaders and the possibility of their united attack on Berar are mentioned. A party of Pindaris defeated by Soob Karim had come to take service with the Bhonsla who had intimated this fact to the Resident.

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR,

TO—THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL

Nagpur, 28th December 1805

I had the honour to report the arrival of an Agent from Serjee Rao Ghatky at this Court. I have since had another communication about him from the Durbar of which the following is the substance. Particular circumstances having prevented the Raja from giving audience to Bhim Rao immediately on his arrival, he of his own accord waited on Shreedhar Pundit and produced letters from Serjee Rao, stating that he was ordered by Sindia and Holkar to negotiate a confederacy against the British Nation between those two Chiefs and the Bhonsla, for which purpose he had sent Bhim Rao, and that he trusted the Bhonsla would immediately advance 5,00,000 rupees to enable Sindia and Holkar to carry on the war and would prepare an army without delay to co-operate in the prosecution of hostilities.

Jeswant Rao, through whom this communication was made to me, added, that Shreedhar Pundit had replied to the vakeel's proposal by (indistinct) the obligation, which Serjee Rao had received from the Raja (in whose service he once was, and to whose charity he appears to have been much indebted) by pointing out the ingratitude he had shown, both towards the Bhonsla and Sindia and finally by calling on Bue Rao to produce his credentials from the latter Chief, Bue Rao failing to produce them in Sindia's name, and to caution him against communicating his proposals to the Raja for the effects of whose indignation, Shreedhar Pundit said he could not be answerable, and to contrast in the most contemptuous manner the weak state of Serjee Rao's power with the insolence of his demands. Jeswant Rao states Shreedhar Pundit's observations to have made great impression on the vakeel who admitted the desperate state of Serjee Rao's officers and declared his intention of quitting his service and retiring to his own country in the neighbourhood of Kolhapore. Bue Rao is still at Nagpur. He appears to be on terms with Shreedhar's vakeel and Atma Rao.

Nana Sahib still continues at Chanda and there does not at present appear to be much expectation of his return. I understand that the Purgunnahs of Warroor and Mandgaon have not yet been given over to him. The troops which were said to be about to assemble at Raipore, have not

yet taken any step towards that arrangement but I am informed that there are some troops under Nautoo Ram Hoozary at Jubbulpore and under Bhagwant Singh at Mundla who certainly belong to Nana Sahib, and are represented as being about to proceed to Rewa Mukoondpur. It is possible that they may be intended against Sohaugpur but I have no certain information on the subject. I also understand that there lately marched from Jubbulpore a Bagaila of some Rank named Gummonde Singh who had hired about 500 men at that place for the purpose as was believed of assisting an imposter under the name of Vizeer Ali, who has appeared in the neighbourhood of Rewa. I lately discharged my news writer at Jubbulpore from motives of economy but having now despatched another I expect soon to be able to submit to you more certain information on the above subjects. I understand that letters from Serjee Rao have lately been received by Nana Sahib but I do not know the contents. My last accounts from Ujjain mention that Goojabba left that place on the 25th November and I have since heard that he had reached Sindia's Camp and was well received.

By letters from Colonel Wallace which I have transmitted to the Secretary in the Political Department you will perceive that a detachment from that officer's army has succeeded in dispersing a body of freebooters connected with Holkar. I have strong reason to believe that from two to three hundred of the freebooters under a brother of Achinabee Singh's have arrived at this city in hopes of being protected by the Raja in whose service the father of that partizan once was. If I find this report true, I shall not fail to require explanations on the subject and to insist on his being sent out of this country unless the Raja will answer for his laying aside his predatory habits.

I have at last ascertained that Jotiba Maunla is a Sirdar in the service of Dowlat Rao Sindia and that he was always employed to direct the operations of the Pindaries while they were attached to that prince.

He is at present sent to persuade them to quit the districts belonging to Sindia, which they have usurped; he appears to have succeeded with Karim who as Jeswant Rao informs me had taken service with Sindia, and engaged to furnish 2000 horse. He has given over the command of his free troops to some of his relations. He is now with Jotiba who has collected a considerable force at Naimbaud on the Nerbudda opposite Hundia. Seetoo has assembled his party at the latter place to prevent Jotiba from crossing the river.

Jeswant Rao informs me that in case matters are accommodated between the Pindaries they will unite in an attack on this country and Bera and that Jotiba expressly held out to Seetoo as an argument for agreeing to his demands; the advantage they might expect from an attack on Amraoti. I am not certain of the truth of this statement; it is however probable that Seetoo may be driven into Berar but in any case the arrangements in that province appear to be such as to render it impossible for an incursion to be made into it with any chance of success. The Raja continues his preparations to oppose any future inroad into his country; he shows the greatest anxiety to co-operate cordially with the British troops. He has sent the officer who has charge of Multai to explain the passes of the hills to Colonel Darnley and he has ordered the Chiefs who command at Paunaura to furnish with intelligence of the movements of the Pindaries to the British Detachment.

I have been careful to transmit all the accounts I received of the Pindaries to Colonel Dovetone, but as his Camp is now at no great distance from this city, I shall have an opportunity of going there and communicating with him personally when I shall be able to answer all his enquiries, and to explain the situation of the Raja's armies and of the Pindaries as far as my information goes more fully than I could otherwise do

At the visit which I from time to time receive from Jeswant Rao, he continues frequently to enquire when the projected addition to the Raja's territories is likely to be made to which I always reply that I am not myself informed on that subject, but that he may assume himself no unnecessary delay will take place

P S—I have been visited by Jeswant Rao since I wrote the above. He came to inform me that a party of the Horse who had been defeated by Soob Kareem had arrived here and applied to the Raja for service, that His Highness considering them as the enemies of the British Government had directed him to inform me of the circumstance, and to say that he would not entertain them or even permit them to remain in his territories. In reply to this I observed that the Raja's conduct on this occasion was extremely friendly and proper, but that if he was disposed to entertain any of Holkar's people, the British Government would not object to it; unless they renewed their enmity to us, or took shelter here with an intention of returning to Holkar's service. Jeswant Rao having declared that they would remain here and serve the Raja, he went on to say that His Highness had received intelligence which gave him great uneasiness, and that he was desirous of having my opinion on it. He went on to state that the Raja had learned from Sindia's vakeel that his master had recalled Serjee Rao to his Court with an intention of appointing his minister, that Serjee had accordingly arrived in Camp and that an evident diminution of Ambajee's credit, had since taken place. He said that from Ghatkey's known character the Raja could not, but apprehend the tranquillity of India would again be disturbed by Sindia's conduct, that he had therefore desired him to enquire whether, I had any further information on the subject and what I thought of it. I replied that I had not heard of Serjee Rao's being about to be recalled, but I hoped Sindia summoned him with no bad intention particularly as he had at present no temptation to renew his former system of conduct. Jeswant Rao said, that would be very true if Sindia were a prudent person, but that he was not, he spoke a good deal on the subject, and seemed to insinuate that Sindia was only temporizing till he should have put his country in order. He explained at great length the reason of Serjee Rao's enmity to the Raja, which he stated to have been occasioned by His Highness's constantly refusing to join in a confederacy against the British and then pointed out how certain it was that Sindia would renew his unjustifiable plans, if Ghatky joined him for that person, he said, was equally incapable of remaining in an inferior situation and of making a proper use of any power he might acquire. He next said that the Raja had directed him to show me the necessity of the British being on their guard against Naunio (Mannia) who he said certainly intend to invade this country and Berar as soon as he could settle his disputes with Seetoo. On my expressing some doubt whether Jotiba, if in Sindia's service, would attack the territories of the Allies of the English, he produced a letter from a person in Mannia's Camp, saying that such was the decided intention of that person and he said this was confirmed by Sindia's officers at Seoni in a letter to Balajee Eswant and finally that Jotiba himself had replied to a letter from that Minister (desiring him to abstain from plundering the Raja's country) in such terms as

left no doubt of his designs. Jeswant Rao added that he understood Jotiba to be still acting on the orders given him in the middle of last year and to affect to know nothing of the accommodation with the British. He particularly recommended us to watch any motion made by Jotiba to the westward lest he should enter the Nizam's country by Khandesh and then mentioned that Jeolall Singh Holkar's Governor of Chandoor had joined Mannia. I said I hoped Mannia would behave in a manner more consistent with the engagements of his Government than was believed but that at all events both the Raja and the British were prepared for him and I could answer for his being destroyed if he entered Berar. In answer to a question of mine whether Sindia's officers had begun to seize Holkar's lands Jeswant Rao said that by late accounts it appeared that they had not.

Letter No 47 —Elphinstone is informed of the decision of the Governor General to transfer the Sambalpoore and Sonopore tracts to the Bhonsla and that the Bhonsla should be again requested to release the Rajas of these tracts kept as prisoners at Nagpur

FROM—N B EDMONSTON SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

TO—M ELPHINSTON RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

17th July 1806

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatches of the number and dates noted in the margin and to communicate to you the orders of the Honourable the Governor General in Council on the subjects of them

2 The Governor General in Council entirely approves your proceedings relative to the release of the husband and son of the Ranees of Sambalpoore and of the Raja of Sonopore. You will be pleased to intimate to the Raja that the Governor General in Council acquits him of any participation in the capricious conduct of his brother. You will further signify to him that after the earnest and long continued endeavours of the British Government the expense which it has actually incurred and agrees permanently to incur in persuading and inducing the Zemindars of Sambalpoore and Patna to relinquish their tenures for the sole purpose of transferring those possessions to the dominion of the Raja of Berar the release of those unfortunate Captives whose continued confinement could be productive of no one benefit to Nana Sahib is a trifling concession which Government was entitled to expect. That the cession of those provinces however being intended as a benefit to the Raja, the British Government will not on account of the conduct of his brother revoke its intention. I am directed at the same time to desire that you will make another effort to obtain the release of the Captives, urging the liberality of Government on this occasion as an example of justice on the part of the Raja's brother.

3 You have been apprized by Captain Roughsedge of a renewal of the demur on the part of the Ranees of Sambalpoore and others of the Zamindars to abandon their tenures. Enclosed I have the honour to transmit for your information a copy of the reply which has been addressed to Captain Roughsedge's dispatch of the 3rd instant from which you will observe that Government does not consider itself bound to continue its protection to the Zamindars who shall depart from the obligation of their voluntary and positive engagements and consequently that under any

circumstances the provinces of Sambalpur and Patna will be transferred to the Raja's authority with the exception of the territory of Raja Joujar Singh

4 The Governor-General in Council entirely approves your reply to Jeswant Rao's report of the absurd language of Holkar's Vakeel as described in your dispatch of the 20th ultimo

5 The Governor-General in Council approves your having granted temporary sunnuds to the Ministers of the Raja of Berar who have received the grant of pensions and the tenor of those sunnuds

6 You will have received sunnud under the seal and signature of the Governor-General in Council corresponding in substance with the tenor of those which you have delivered to the Minister

Letter No 48 —Elphinstone reports the discussions he had with Jeswant Rao Bhonsla's Minister regarding the draft of the engagement that the Bhonsla was to sign and by which the territories of Sambalpur and Patna were to be ceded to him The proceedings of Raja Mahipat Ram in Berar and the relations between the Sindhia and Holkar are also discussed.

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR,
TO—THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL

Fort William, 3rd September 1806

When I had last the honour to address you I expected to have been able to forward the engagements respecting Sambalpur by the next post, but the delay occasioned by different alterations proposed by the Raja, has prevented its being signed until this time

The first draft was planned agreeably to the instructions contained in Mr Edmonstone's dispatch dated May 15th, and was accompanied by a schedule formed from list furnished by Captain Roughsedge, omitting however the details They consisted of an enumeration of villages extracted from the Sambalpur records, but stated by Captain Roughsedge to be by no means an accurate account of the number of villages now in the country, and indeed it is obvious from the many changes that have lately occurred in those provinces that no exact description of their present state can be obtained It therefore appeared to me more consistent with the spirit of your orders to omit the details altogether than to insert such as appear to be likely to produce uncertainty when the draft was sent to the Raja for signature, His Highness objected to the preamble, as referring to negotiations in which he had no share, and begged that the mention of his losses might be left out, as being disagreeable to his feelings As the proposed alternations did not at all affect the substance of the engagement, I made no scruple of promising to adopt them, and accordingly pressed a new draft to which the Raja objected that the pergunnahs named in the schedule were not the same as those specified in the list which he has signed in 1804

Jeswant Rao came to me to explain this objection which he did by comparing the lists, which differ considerably I therefore said, I would alter the schedule and make it conform to that which the Raja had signed, except Boad and Ramghur, which were in Cuttack or Raigur which belongs to Joujar Singh Jeswant Rao stated that the Raja had expected to get Boad, and I replied by reminding him that Boad was not in Sambalpur, or

Patna, which provinces alone had been promised. Having observed in the schedule prepared by Captain Roughsedge that the Talook of Puddampur stated to belong to Joojar Singli is included in the cession I remarked it to Jeswant Rao and explained that if the Talook in question was really one of Joojar Singli's possession it would not be ceded. Jeswant Rao now brought me the Raja's resolution on that head which was that in case Puddampur belonged to Joojar Singli when the country was conquered by the British he should retain it, otherwise not. To this I agreed.

A third draft is now prepared and sent to the Raja who returned it yesterday evening by Jeswant Rao. His Highness's objection was that the present schedule differed from that which I had before drawn out from Captain Roughsedge's papers and that he was anxious to have it so arranged as to include all the country which he had ceded except Raighar. I proposed that a clause to that effect should be inserted and Jeswant Rao declaring that such a clause would be quite sufficient. I asked if the engagement was now entirely agreeable to the Raja and whether he would sign as it stood on which Jeswant Rao intimated that the Raja still made some difficulty about Boad. Finding from my reply that Boad would not be restored Jeswant Rao said that the Raja would not take possession of Boad even if it was given. He then went on as I understood him to say that the Raja had ceded Boad to us at first but that this was not the case with the other provinces. Conceiving this to be a renewal of the dispute concerning the construction of the Treaty of Deogaum which was formerly checked by Lord Wellesley I told Jeswant Rao that if he was determined to revive that subject I must absolutely drop all negotiations about the cession as you were resolved to suffer no ambiguity concerning the principle on which Sambalpur was given to the Raja. Jeswant Rao then declared that he did not intend to allude to that question but was about to inform me of a treaty between the Raja of Berar and the Raja of Boad by which the former bound himself never to exercise authority over the latter country. Having at last agreed about the Treaty Jeswant Rao proceeded to request that I would write to Captain Roughsedge and beg him not to quit Sambalpur till he had made over charge of the province to the Raja's officers. I promised I would do so but observed that it would rest entirely with Captain Roughsedge to conform to my suggestion or not as he thought best. I then explained that Officer's orders and mentioned that he had been prompted by his own anxiety for the complete success of his mission to offer to remain at Sambalpur till the Raja's officers arrived provided they came soon and in sufficient force. I had before told Jeswant Rao that Captain Roughsedge thought it would be expedient to send at least 2000 men to take possession as such a force would awe the Zamindars and prevent any plans of resistance which they might otherwise have in contemplation. Jeswant Rao now informed me that there was not a sufficient force at Ruttanpore to admit of detaching so strong a body and that to send them from this would require time and expense. I showed Jeswant Rao the impolicy of sending a small force and told him that now more than ever (indistinct) I remind him that there was no obligation on the Company to put the Raja in possession of the countries ceded and that consequently it was very uncertain whether Captain Roughsedge would stay till the arrival of the Officers from Ratanpur. Jeswant Rao said he knew that would depend on Captain Roughsedge but that the Raja was very desirous to have me write to that gentleman to request that he would wait for the persons who are to take charge.

I omit many arguments brought forward by Jeswant Rao to prove the propriety of our assisting the Raja in obtaining possession as they were nearly the same which Shreedhar Pundit used on a former occasion.

Jeswant Rao then enquired whether I had heard lately from Mahepat Ram, observing that Shreepat Ram lately arrived at Amraoti with 1,000 or 1,500 men for the purpose of superintending the defence of the frontier against the Pindaries, that he had only stayed a few days at Amraoti and then returned by forced marches to Basim. As I could give Jeswant Rao no explanation of Shreepat Ram's movements, he said he conjectured that his brother Mahipat Ram had been superseded, which had occasioned his sudden return.

As soon as I found that the late proceedings at Hyderabad were becoming public, I mentioned to Jeswant Rao that Noorool Omrah had been attempting to seduce the English Sepoys, and that Row Ramba had been engaged in some plan for placing Ferridoon Jah on the Musnud, in consequence of which those Chiefs had been removed from Hyderabad. I said nothing on the alarm which lately existed among the Native troops. But I observed by Jeswant Rao's conversation at this visit that he had heard of it, for he was particularly inquisitive about our ideas on the propriety of compelling men of other religions to embrace the Christian faith. In answer to which, I of course showed how repugnant such notions were to the principles of the British Nation. He next proceeded to mention the news from the Northward and asked whether I thought Sindia and Holkar would go to war. I said I had no means of knowing, but on his pressing the question, I said that it looked as if they would. He then asked what would happen if they were to carry on their operations within the Raja's territories, and on my asking him to explain himself, he changed his question, and enquired what the Raja ought to do if Sindia and Holkar joined and came on his frontier, requiring him to unite with them. I said much would depend on the object they proposed to unite for. Jeswant Rao asked whether I really thought Holkar would adhere to his treaty with us. I said certainly he would. Jeswant Rao then asked, some questions about the article regarding Serjee Rao in the Treaty with Holkar, and enquired whether I thought that Holkar, who broke the Treaty when he was weak would maintain it after he had strengthened himself. To which I replied, that though Holkar was at peace with the Company, I would not affect to consider him as a Chief on whose good faith much reliance was to be placed, but even admitting that he was not to be tied down by engagements, I still thought that the events of the last war would render him very much disinclined to any further contest with the English. I then enquired whether the Raja entertained any apprehensions of invasion from Sindia or Holkar, remarking that Holkar was under great obligations to the Raja, who had procured the release of Khande Rao and the restitution of the Holkar Territory by Sindia. Jeswant Rao in answer enumerated the proofs which Holkar had given of a treacherous disposition, said that Sindia was not much better, and that when such power were in motion, all their neighbours must needs be alarmed. He however added that neither of them had yet made any demand on the Raja. After which, he asked me whether any notice would be taken of Holkar's breaking the treaty if he continued to retain Serjee Rao, and what would be done if he proceeded to show a similar disregard of the other articles. I answered that I did not know whether the retaining of Serjee Rao would be thought material, but that if Holkar infringed any material part of the Treaty the British Government would of course renew the war which they had not given over from any inability to prosecute it with vigour.

Notwithstanding Jeswant Rao's assertion that Holkar has made no demand on the Raja, it is generally believed that he has called on him for supplies of money. I understand that a letter which the Raja received from him

on the 26th ultimo contained a project of a confederacy between Holkar, Sindia and the Raja for the purpose of settling the Government of Poona on pretence of which, Holkar called on the Raja to assist him with money of which he says he is in great want

Letter No 49 —The letter conveys the approval of the Governor-General of the replies of Liphinstone to the Bhonsla regarding his proposal to send a mission to the Holkar. It also conveys the information that the relations between the Sindhila and Holkar are none too friendly. The enclosures to the letter reveal the intention of the Holkar

FROM—N B EDMONSTON SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

TO—M LIPHINSTON RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

Fort William the 13th October 1806

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatch No 25 dated the 20th ultimo

2 The Honourable the Governor-General in Council entirely approves your reply to Jeswant Rao Ramchand's communication of his mission to Holkar and desires that you will confirm in the name of Government the sentiments which you expressed on that occasion. The Governor General in Council is satisfied that the Raja of Berar entertains no design of engaging in any confederacy with Holkar of a nature inimical to the British Government nor does the Governor General in Council imagine that Holkar himself entertains any such project

3 The latest advices from Holkar represent him to be highly incensed against Sindia for retaliating the injuries which Holkar's troops have committed upon the possessions of the former

4 I am directed to take this opportunity of transmitting to you for your information the enclosed translations of a letter addressed by Holkar to the Resident at Delhi, upon that subject and of the Resident's reply together with a copy of the instructions issued to the Resident under date the 10th instant in consequence of the receipt of those documents

Translation of a letter from Jeswant Rao Holkar to Mr Seton, Resident at Delhi (Received on the night of the 24th September 1806)

I have lately heard that Dowlat Rao Sindia has raised disturbances in my country. This intelligence has astonished me more especially from the circumstance of Mr Jerome Mercer being with him and from this outrage having taken place in the presence of that gentleman. Hitherto I have not committed any act of infringement nor will I commit any neither will I ever act inconsistently with friendship. Should it however come to that and should it be my intention to act differently still I shall do nothing without giving intimation thereof to the executive officers of the British Government. I shall first give intimation and then act. Dowlat Rao Sindia has collected nearly five lacs of rupees of my public revenue from Malwa and has not yet made the compensation which he agreed to make

Nay in addition to this he meditates further injuries. This I have communicated to Mr Mercer who will no doubt, give you information thereof and you will certainly pay attention to it

A true translation

ARCH SETON, RESIDENT

Translation of a letter written by Mr Seton, Resident at Delhi, to Jeswant Rao Holkar on the 24th September 1806, in reply to one received from him on that day

I have this day been honoured with the receipt of your friendly letter, acquainting me that Maha Rajah Dowlat Rao Sindia has raised disturbances in your country, adding, that you had not committed any act of infringement, and, should it be your intention to act differently, you would nevertheless, give previous intimation of such intention to the British Government. My friend, the British Government is most desirous, that harmony should ever continue to prevail, between you and Dawlat Rao Sindia, with respect to the above intelligence, relative to the outrages committed in your country, it is probable, that the acts must have been perpetrated by ignorant persons, and without the knowledge of the Maha Raja, you may be persuaded, that every exertion will be made by the British Government, to preserve a good understanding between you and Dowlat Rao Sindia. I have transmitted your letter to the Honourable the Governor-General, and as he has the greatest friendship for you, there cannot be a doubt of the satisfaction, which he will feel in exerting himself, upon this occasion, whatever orders I may receive on the subject from the Governor-General, shall be immediately communicated to you

A true translation

ARCH SETON, RESIDENT

TO—A SETON, ESQR, RESIDENT AT DELHI

SIR,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatch to the address of the Secretary to Government, in the Persian Department, under date the 25th ultimo, enclosing copies and translations of a letter from Holkar to your address, on the subject of his complaints, against the conduct of Dowlat Rao Sindia, in collecting money from Holkar's districts, and of your reply

2 The Governor-General in Council observes from the tenor of your reply, that you have encouraged Holkar to expect the mediation of the British Government for the purpose of effecting a re-conciliation between Holkar and Sindia

3 It has escaped your re-collection that it is a fundamental principle of the policy of the British Government, to abstain from all interference whatever, in the internal concerns of other states, and in their transactions with each other, excepting only in the degree in which our interference is prescribed, by the obligations of Treaty. With Holkar and Sindia no engagements exist which warrant our interference in their disputes, and consequently the manifestation of a disposition to interpose our mediation, is entirely inconsistent with the professions, which Government has distinctly made to both those Chieftains, and which Government has on every occasion, endeavoured to diffuse the knowledge, and confirm the sincerity

1 Another disadvantage of declaring a disposition on the part of the British Government to mediate the differences between Holkar and Sindia or in any manner to interpose for the accommodation of them is that an inference may be deduced from an acknowledgement of such a disposition that the Resident with Dowlat Rao Sindia possessed an authority to interfere for the purpose of preventing Sindia's alleged encroachments, on the rights of Holkar since a disposition shown to mediate an accommodation of differences might be expected to have been exerted in preventing those acts of injustice which occasioned them. The declaration contained in your letter to Holkar therefore has a tendency to admit the justice of Holkar's complaint that Mr Mercer employed no exertions to prevent Sindia's alleged encroachments.

5 I am directed to add that it would have been sufficient if you had merely acknowledged the receipt of Holkar's letter and apprized him that you would transmit it to Government and communicate to Holkar the instructions which you might receive.

6 Enclosed you will receive a letter to your address from the Honourable the Governor General containing the terms of a reply to be given to Holkar's reference. A translation of the Governor General's letter in the Persian language is also annexed and you will be pleased to forward a copy of that translation to Holkar in a letter from yourself merely referring to it as being translation made by yourself of the orders which you have received in consequence of your communication of his letter to your address to the Governor General.

7 A copy of this dispatch will be transmitted to the Resident at the Court of Dowlat Rao Sindia.

I have the honour to be,

Sir

FORT WILLIAM
10th October 1806

Your most obedient humble servant
N B EDMONSTONE Secretary

Letter No 50 —In the letter Elphinstone suggests the desirability of getting some portion of Bhonsla's territories comprising Nagpur tracts and those on the Wardha river geographically surveyed. He points out the geographical inaccuracies of the territorial boundaries mentioned in the 2nd article of the Treaty of Deogaon.

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

TO—N B EDMONSTONE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

Nagpur 14th December 1806

I have the honour to forward the second sheet of Lieut Lloyd's survey which reaches to Sambalpoore where the part of the route which has already been surveyed ends.

The remainder of the route will probably be concluded in a much less period than has been occupied by those already finished. I beg leave to recall to the notice of the Honourable the Governor General the suggestion which I formerly submitted that usual surveying allowance should be granted to Lieut Lloyd in case his route should be approved.

I take this opportunity of submitting to the Honourable the Governor-General, the following observations which appear to me of some importance. On my arrival at this place I was naturally desirous of obtaining information regarding the Geography of this country at present so little known. I was however for a long time deterred by the fear of exciting the Raja's suspicions by any attempt to explore his territories

Having lately discovered that geographical enquiries might be easily conducted so as to give no offence, I have for these few months employed some hircarras to collect information regarding the parts of the country which are worst filled up in the maps. The result was such as to satisfy me that the latest maps are not only deficient but incorrect in some of leading features of the countries laid down

The following instance is not more a matter of curiosity than of political importance from the manner in which it affects the principal stipulation of the treaty of Deogaum. It was indeed taken advantage of at one of my first interviews with the Raja of Berar's ministers but the argument founded on it was not long maintained. The second article of that treaty declares the Wardha to be the future limit of the territories of the Nizam and the Bhonsla from the place where it issues from the Injadry (Vindhya) hills to its junction with the Godavery but the fact is that the Wardha does not join the Godavery at all. It falls into the Payn Ganga, called also the Purneeka at the distance of 10 miles from Chanda the Payn Ganga falls into the Wyn Ganga and the latter meets the Godavery at Calaisur. This account of the rivers is contradicted by another part of the maps as their course crosses that which is laid down for the Inderowty (Indravati) rises near Bustar and falls into the Godavery above Budrachilam. It is unnecessary to give any instance of the deficiencies of the best maps of the Bhonsla's dominions as they are evident from mere inspection. The only method of remedying this inconvenience is by means of enquiries carried on at Ragpore. I should think it my duty to attend to the subject myself but my official business would prevent my giving sufficient time to it even if I were otherwise qualified. It appears to me that in the attainment of this desirable object particular advantages might be derived from the employment of Lieut Lloyd with whose military duty it would not interfere. The accompanying survey will enable the Governor-General to decide on his qualifications and from his turn for Geographical science. I can take it upon me to say that his zeal and application would do justice to the choice of Government. His enquiries might be conducted without any considerable addition to the number of hircarras now on the establishment of the Residency but as the service to be performed is of considerable extent and importance and would require as much exertion and at least as much intelligence as can be exercised in those generally committed to officers who draw the allowance of Deputy Surveyor I should imagine that the Hon'ble the Governor-General would deem it proper to grant that allowance to Lieut Lloyd during the time he was engaged in the survey. The amount of his allowance is however left entirely to the liberality of Government should the plan which I have the honour to propose be approved. Lieut Lloyd might be directed to attend to the instructions of the Surveyor-General and to communicate the information he collects to that officer and to the Resident at Nagpur.

I have to apologize for taking up so much of the time of the Hon'ble the Governor-General but I am induced to do so, from my opinion of the importance of the subject and from an impression that our present ignorance of the Geography of this part of India is not only very inconvenient in a political point of view but despicable to the character of the Hon'ble Company's Government and of the nation.

BRITISH POLICY AND DIPLOMACY IN INDIA

Letter No 1—The letter which is not printed encloses extracts from a letter addressed under His Excellency's authority, to the Resident at Delhi under date the 13th instant, as containing an explanation of principles of British Policy, with which His Excellency deems it expedient that all persons acting in the capacity of Representative of British Government should be acquainted

FROM—N B EDMONSTON SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT
TO—M FIPHINSTON RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

Fort William 24th January 1805

The extension of our territorial possessions, or of our political control for purposes of expediency or even of comparative security unsupported by motives of indisputable justice and indispensable necessity has never constituted an object of the Governor General's policy

The various and important additions which have been made to the British territory in India during the last seven years have originated in the prosecution of just and necessary war of positive right under established treaties. The augmentations of territory which have accompanied either the success of our Arms or the improvements effected in our subsidiary alliance with various native states have been justified in point of policy as well as of right by their inseparable connection with the foundations of our security, public faith, honour and independence in India. But a general system of extension of territory or of enlarging the scale of our conquests and dominions is contrary to the fundamental maxims of this Government which it prohibited by law from pursuing such schemes of unwarrantable aggrandizement

It is highly important to our security as well as to our honour that these maxims of our policy should be fully understood by every representative of our Government in India and clearly explained to all our dependents and allies and to all the Native States especially to those situated in the vicinity of our territories

Our power is founded not only on its intrinsic strength but on the justice and equity of our principles of action. Contiguous states will be best maintained in a due respect for our territory not by the perpetual alarm and terror of a restless spirit of domination and encroachment but by the certain knowledge and experience that our vigilance to frustrate treachery, that our alacrity to resist aggression, and to punish all the principals and accomplices of unjust attacks or machinations against us or our allies are the attributes of a great powerful and well ordered Government uniting moderation of principles with energy and promptitude of action and equally determined to respect the just rights of other States and to maintain and assert its own. These principles form the most advantageous contrast with the vague and desultory policy of the native powers whose respect for our Government must be increased by every event which shall tend to confirm in their minds not only a sense of the magnitude, vigour and stability of our power but a confidence of their own security in the steady observance of justice and good faith towards us and our allies. Such lessons are indeed slowly inculcated in barbarous and lawless minds. But the progress of such a system however gradual will prove as certain and regular as the progress of the British power in India. Experience has manifested that the wise policy established by Parliament for the Government of India has been fully understood and acknowledged by the principal native States and every

quarter of these extensive regions now furnishes salutary examples of the safety and prosperity of those Chiefs and States who have maintained good faith with the Company, of the ruin and disgrace of those who have violated it, of our justice towards all independent powers, of our attachment to our allies, of our ability to detect falsehood and to repel violence and of our amity in the exercise of that commanding superiority which has ever attended the actual employment of our arms. Local and temporary inconvenience must be deemed subordinate to the permanent and general establishment of that system, which is the main spring of our interests, power, and glory in India, and although the characteristic habits and dispositions of the rude and predatory tribes situated within the vicinity of our new frontier may oppose obstacles to the observation of the maxims stated in this dispatch we may form a confident expectation founded upon the firm basis of experience and of general truth, at that time, and the undeviating operation of just principles supported by solid power will produce effects of more certain and permanent advantage than could be derived from any imitation of that desperate course of policy which has proved the disgrace and ruin of our enemies in India

A true extract

N B EDMONSTONE,
Secretary to Government

Letter No. 2.—In this letter the Governor-General directs the withdrawal of troops under the command of Major General Wellesley from an advanced position on the north bank of the Godavery from where he could control any situation within the territories of the Nizam and the Peshwa. The troops under his command are to be distributed according to the plan suggested, owing to the end of the war with Holkar and the Establishment of amicable relations with Sindhia, Bhonsla and Peshwa.

FROM—THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL
TO—MAJOR GENERAL WELLESLEY

Fort William, 24th January 1805

By the dispatches noted in the margin (of which copies have by my desire been forwarded for your information) you will perceive that although I had every reason to be convinced of the hostile designs of Dowlat Rao Sindia and of the Raja of Berar (certainly originating in an erroneous estimation of the extent of Jeswant Rao Holkar's power and success) it was not my intention to proceed to extremities with those Chieftains excepting in cases of the most indispensable necessity. As long as the conduct of these powers appeared to be inconsistent with the relation of amity, and to indicate hostility, it appeared to me, to be expedient to pursue such a course, as might manifest to Dowlat Rao Sindia and the Raja of Berar the determination of the British Government to indicate its just rights, and to frustrate any designs which those Chieftains might have formed of a description hostile to our interests or to those of our allies

2 It has always however been my desire to maintain with Dowlat Rao Sindia and the Raja of Berar the relations of friendship which were so happily established by the Treaties of Peace concluded with those Chieftains and by the alliance concluded with Sindia and although the concurrence testimony of pacts from every quarter of India have satisfied me of the treacherous intention of those Chieftains, I am now disposed to believe that they have abandoned the designs which they had formed in consequence of

the exaggerated reports of Jeswant Rao Holkar's progress and that the events of the war in Hindustan and in the Deccan have compelled them to return to a proper sense of their obligations towards the British Government

3 No questions now depend either at the courts of Dowlat Rao Sindia or of the Raja of Berar which appear to menace any interruption of the subsisting relations with those powers and the period of time is arrived at which the British Government may with safety extend to those Chieftains the additional benefits by which I propose to cement our connection

4 The only point with regard to Sindia which at present appears to require consideration is the establishment of his Government in the province of Malwa and the transfer to Sindia of the territories in that province which have been conquered from Jeswant Rao Holkar. It is certainly desirable to induce Sindia to return to Ujjain and to occupy the territories which belonged to Jeswant Rao Holkar in the province of Malwa but it neither appears to be necessary to compel Sindia to adopt these arrangements nor to abandon the defensive alliance if he should refuse to comply with the amicable representations which the British Resident at his court has been directed to address to that Chieftain for the purpose of improving the condition of his Government under the existing connection with the British power

5 With regard to the Raja of Berar the only question which is likely to require discussion is the late invasion of the territories of the Soubahdar of the Deccan by the troops of the Raja or of the Officers of the Raja's Government. But this question may be hereafter adjusted without difficulty by amicable negotiation under instructions which may be issued to the Residents at the Courts of the Soubahdar of the Deccan and of the Raja of Berar respectively

6 Under these circumstances and adverting to the state of the Campaign in Hindostan as well as to the reduced state of the enemy's power and resources I am of opinion that the maintenance of the troops under Colonel Haliburton in an advanced position in the Deccan is now becoming unnecessary as far as respecting the state of our relations with Dowlat Rao Sindia and the Raja of Berar

7 On the other hand the state of the war with Holkar does not appear to me to require the continuance in the field of the troops now under the command of Colonel Haliburton with a view to the prosecution of hostilities against Holkar Sindia and the Peshwa must be called upon to occupy and to provide for the defence of the territories which have been conquered from Holkar in the province of Malwa and in the Deccan respectively and it would be inexpedient to employ the British Forces in the Deccan in the protection of territories which having been conquered by the British arms have been gratuitously ceded to the allies

8 Adverting to all these considerations and to the state of the season at the period of time when this dispatch may reach you and the authorities in the Deccan I am of opinion that it is now advisable to adopt with every practicable degree of expedition the necessary arrangements for withdrawing the troops to the Deccan under the command of Colonel Haliburton from their present position and for establishing them in such positions as may be best calculated to afford protection to the territories of our allies the Soubahdar of the Deccan and the Peshwa

9 As it is uncertain whether you may be at Poona when this dispatch may reach the authorities in the Deccan I have addressed a letter to Colonel Haliburton of which a copy is enclosed for your information directing him to withdraw the troops under his command from their present advanced

position to a convenient position on the north or left bank of the Godavery and there to halt until he can receive your orders for the final distribution of the troops under his command. I have also ordered Colonel Haliburton to adopt arrangements for carrying into immediate execution the orders which you will be pleased to signify to him for the separation of the subsidiary forces belonging to the Peshwa and the Soubahdar of the Deccan and for the reduction of all expenses and establishments now existing beyond the establishment fixed for the subsidiary forces under the stipulation of the defensive alliance with those states; you will also give orders for returning to Bombay and to Fort St George, all corps, troops and followers belonging to those Presidencies respectively which may now be in the Deccan, beyond the establishments of the subsidiary forces serving with the Peshwa and with the Soubahdar of the Deccan.

10 In considering the positions which it may be most beneficial to the public interests to select for the subsidiary force serving with the Peshwa and the Soubahdar of the Deccan, I have adverted to the reasoning contained in your dispatch to me under date the 26th January 1804 and I entirely approve of the proposed position on the Godavery for the main bodies of the subsidiary forces serving with the Soubahdar of the Deccan and with the Peshwa, with two battalions from each of those forces, to be stationed at Hyderabad and Poona. This distribution is calculated to meet every contingency either of peace or war and is the most beneficial arrangement which would be adopted with a view to derive every possible advantage from the services of these forces respectively.

11 You will be pleased therefore on the receipt of this dispatch to issue the necessary orders to Colonel Haliburton for the return of the troops under his command to the banks of the Godavery and for the separation of the subsidiary forces now united under his command, together with the reduction of all such establishments as may not in your judgment, be deemed necessary for the efficiency of the subsidiary forces serving with the Soubahdar of the Deccan and the Peshwa. You will also direct the return to the territories of Fort St George and of Bombay of all corps, and troops which may not belong to the subsidiary forces, and you will communicate early notice of your arrangements for this purpose to those Governments respectively. It will also be necessary that in concert with the Residents at Hyderabad and at Poona, you should adopt such measures as you may deem necessary to enable you to distribute the subsidiary forces serving with the Soubahdar of the Deccan and the Peshwa to the northward of the Godavery as proposed in your dispatch of the 26th January 1804, at the earliest period of time which may be deemed consistent with the security and advantage of the public interests in the Deccan.

12 Objections founded on the state of affairs at the courts of Hyderabad and Poona may exist to frustrate the proposed arrangements as far as may relate to the expediency of stationing the main body of the subsidiary forces on the Godavery. In that case you will be pleased to direct the return of the whole of the Nizam's subsidiary force to Hyderabad, and of the Peshwa's to Poona, or to Ahmednagar according to your discretion. Copies of this dispatch will be transmitted to the Residents at Hyderabad and Poona, and they will be directed to furnish you with their sentiments respecting the most eligible arrangement for the distribution of the subsidiary forces serving with the Soubahdar of the Deccan and the Peshwa.

13 In the actual condition of public affairs in the Deccan it does not appear to me to be necessary for you to proceed to the Deccan, and to assume the exercise of the powers vested in you by my instructions of the 9th November 1804. I am unwilling however to abrogate those powers without affording you an opportunity of exercising your judgment with regard to the expediency of your retaining these powers, but unless any

objection should occur to your mind I am of opinion that they may now be verified by you without inconvenience to the public service. It is not my intention to issue any orders on this subject until I receive a communication of your sentiments in reply to this dispatch. You have my permission however to resign these powers if you should think proper and in that case it will be necessary for you to give early notice of your resignation to the Governors of Fort St. George and Bombay and to the several authorities in the Presidency in order that they may act accordingly.

14 Copies of this dispatch will be transmitted to the Governors of Fort St. George and Bombay to His Excellency the Commander in Chief to Colonel Close and to the Residents at Hyderabad Poona Nagpur and at the Court of Dowlat Rao Sindia.

Letter No. 3—Letter directing Colonel Hallburton to occupy a position on the north bank of the Godavery so as to cover both the territories of the Peshwa and of the Subahdar of the Deccan. The objects to be kept in view are stated in paragraph 5.

FROM—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL

TO—COLONEL HALLBURTON

Fort William, 24th January 1805

With a view to prevent any unnecessary delay in the execution of the orders which I have issued for the distribution of the troops now serving in the Deccan I deem it to be proper to transmit to you under my own hand the following orders for the regulation of your conduct.

2 In order to apprise you of the general scope of my views on the present occasion I have annexed to this dispatch an extract from the instructions which I have this day issued to Major General the Honble Arthur Wellesley together with a copy of my letter of this date to the Right Honble Lord William Bentinck. You will consider these documents as well as this dispatch to be of the most secret nature.

3 On the receipt of these instructions you will proceed as soon as may be practicable to collect the troops under the general command with the exception of such detachment as in your judgment may be essentially necessary to the security of the forts conquered from Holkar in the Deccan. Care must be taken however that those detachments shall not be exposed to risk either from an enemy or for want of provisions after the return to the southward of the main body of the troops under your command.

4 As soon as the troops under your general command shall be collected you will march towards the Godavery river and will occupy a position on its north or left bank somewhere about Peepalgaoon so as to cover both the territories of the Peshwa and of the Subahdar of the Deccan. Peepalgaoon is situated about 35 miles southwest of Jalnapoor and about 40 miles from Aurangabad and is opposite to a place on the Godavery marked Racaibori in Rennel's map. This appears to me to be an eligible situation but you will determine the exact position which it may be most advantageous to occupy on the Godavery river with reference to the tenor of my instructions to Major General Wellesley and to the important objects of keeping the corps under your command in health and well supplied with provisions.

5 You will halt at the position which under these orders you may occupy on the left bank of the Godavery river until you receive instructions from Major General Wellesley for the final distribution of the troops under your command but you will lose no time in making the necessary arrangements for carrying such instructions from Major General Wellesley into

execution as soon as they may reach you. All your arrangements should be regulated with a view 1st to the ultimate separation of the troops under your general command, 2nd to the reduction of all extra charges and establishments, and 3rd to the return to their respective establishments of all corps, which may be surplus to the fixed establishment of the subsidiary forces serving with the Peshwa and with the Soubahdar of the Deccan.

6 You will be pleased to report to Captain Armstrong, my Military Secretary, the measures which you may adopt for the execution of these orders, and you will transmit for my information a return of all the troops under your general command together with the actual stations, and the probable period of time at which they may be expected to reach the position which you are directed to occupy on the Godavery river.

7 Copies of these instructions have been transmitted to Major-General the Hon'ble Arthur Wellesley, the Governors of Fort St. George and Bombay to Colonel Close and to the Residents at Hyderabad, Poona, Nagpore and with Dowlat Rao Sindia. Any letters which you may find it necessary to address to the Governors of Fort St. George and Bombay on the occasion of these instructions, should be submitted to those authorities in their separate capacities and not to the Governors in Council.

Letter No. 4.—Wellesley, directs the C-in-C to distribute the forces under his command and carry out fresh dispositions of forces in Northern India and Bombay, according to the plan he (Wellesley) suggests. It may be noticed how Wellesley anticipated the possibility of a trial of strength between the Marathas and the British in the near future, as he thinks the next autumn, and accordingly advised Lake to keep troops cantoned at convenient bases and foodgrain and fodder stocked for the purpose. This preparation of the British statesmen in India for any contingency was responsible for their ultimate success.

FROM—WELLESLEY, GOVERNOR-GENERAL

TO—LORD LAKE, COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF

Fort William, 17th May 1805

Your Lordship will have received several communications by my authority by which you will perceive that I have accepted an apology from Dowlat Rao Sindia for the late outrage offered to the British Residency, and that it is not my wish that your Lordship should pursue Sindia unless he shall make demands at the head of his army from a menacing position.

2 As Sindia has retired it does not appear to me to be advisable for your Lordship to pursue him at this season, although it would certainly be justifiable to act hostilely against him in consequence of his reception of Jeswant Rao Holkar, and of Ameer Khan. It is however extremely desirable to avoid war with Dowlat Rao Sindia. I should hope that he will not now seek it and if it be possible to effect a settlement of Holkar's affairs without further war, such an arrangement would certainly be advisable.

3 It is now expedient to canton the Army at its several fixed stations and this measure properly arranged will afford sufficient security to our possessions, but although I expect that we may avoid war with Dowlat Rao Sindia, I am decidedly of opinion that the best security for the preservation of peace will be such a distribution of our armies as shall enable them to act against the enemy with vigour and celerity in case Scindiah should commence hostilities or Holkar again attempt to disturb the tranquillity of our territories.

4 Your Lordship will therefore take this circumstance into consideration in cantoning the army and in every arrangement which you may adopt will advert to the possibility of our being hereafter compelled to employ our arms against Dowlat Rao Scindia and to the necessity of securing our valuable possessions against the predatory attempts of Jevant Rao Holkar or of any other freebooters

5 For this purpose it will be necessary in the event of hostilities that the troops to be employed against Scindiah or any freebooter who may attempt to take our territories should be completely ready to commence active operations as soon as the season will permit and arrangements will of course be adopted by your Lordship for collecting supplies etc and for completing every other preparation which may be necessary to enable your Lordship to destroy Sindia at an early period of the ensuing season

6 I sincerely hope that the active employment of our troops may become unnecessary but I consider it to be requisite to request your Lordship's attention to the possible contingency of our being compelled to all acts (?) of Sindia or to operate against Holkar about the month of August or as soon as the violence of the rainy season may have subsided

7 The arrangements stated in a subsequent part of this dispatch for the cantonment of the troops will enable your Lordship to assemble a sufficient body of troops at the shortest notice but your Lordship will consider this arrangement to be indispensable with a view to provide if necessary for the defeat of every attempt which may be made either by Holkar singly or by Sindia or by their united forces against our possessions in the northern quarter of Hindostan The grain and other stores required for the corps destined for eventual field service shall be collected at an advanced post and measures should be adopted for this purpose with all possible expedition

8 Your Lordship will be pleased to send the Bombay Army under Major General Jones towards Rampoorth there to be cantoned until the season shall admit of its movement to Guzerat It is of great consequence that the Bombay Army should return to that province as soon as may be possible and I should hope that it might march through Malwa when the season becomes more favourable before the violence of the rains shall commence If the Bombay Army is to wait until the complete termination of the rainy season before the Government of Bombay will have the services of the troops at present under the command of Major General Jones and considerable inconvenience to the public interests in the province of Guzerat may result from this delay I am satisfied therefore that your Lordship will direct the movement of the Bombay Army to Guzerat as soon as the season may admit of the adoption of that important arrangement

9 In proceeding through Malwa your Lordship will of course take particular care that the Bombay Army is of sufficient strength especially in cavalry to be superior to the Mahrattas The Bombay Army should be able not only to defeat the main body of the Mahratta Armies but should also be able to protect its supplies against any plunderers who may attempt to interrupt them while our troops are opposed to the main body of the Mahratta Armies For this purpose it will be indispensably necessary to strengthen the Bombay Army with an efficient body of cavalry and your Lordship will probably be of opinion that two Regiments of Native Cavalry will be necessary to secure these important objects

10 It is also of importance that the equipments of the Bombay Army should be rendered as complete as possible and that the Bombay Troops under the command of Major General Jones should be placed in a state fit for active field service previously to the commencement of their march towards Guzerat

11 Your Lordship will probably consider it to be advisable to accompany the Bombay Army for the purpose of facilitating his (?) arrival at the camp of Dowlat Rao Sindia. In that case adverting to the general tenor of my recent instructions to your Lordship Colonel Malcolm might be empowered to employ the army on its march to Guzerat for the purpose of carrying into effect any arrangements which may be adopted in concert with Sindia, for securing the person of Holkar, or for prosecuting the objects of the instructions with which your Lordship may furnish Colonel Malcolm.

12 In cantoning the troops under your Lordship's command it appears to me to be necessary to provide for the following objects —

First The Subsidiary Force with the Ranah of Gohud to be stationed either at Gohud, or in some favourable position in that district

Second A force in the province of Bundelkhund sufficient to cover that province and to enable the Revenue officers to complete the settlement of the revenues

Third A force at Agra and Muttra

Fourth A force at Delhi, and in the northern part of the Dooab

13 With regard to the European Troops I am inclined to be of opinion that with reference to the considerations to which I have adverted in the 5th and 7th paragraphs of this dispatch it will not be advisable to send the whole of them to such a distance as Futtighur and Cawnpore Your Lordship will in all probability find it expedient to canton the main strength of your army on the right bank of the Jumna, or in the vicinity of that river, provided the health of the Europeans be not exposed to risk by this measure. Dangerous effects may be produced on the counsels of Sindia by the return of our troops to stations far removed in the interior of our own province. The cantonment of the troops on the frontier while it keeps in check all hostile or predatory attempts will also confirm the tranquillity, and good order which now subsists in the conquered provinces. If such an arrangement were practicable it would be highly desirable to maintain a large body of Europeans in cantonment and on the right bank of the Jumna, and I recommend this point to your Lordship's most serious attention. I wish indeed that your Lordship would consider whether it might not be expedient to fix the European cantonments, or at least one considerable European Corps on the right bank of the Jumna permanently. Such an arrangement will always enable your Lordship without difficulty to compose every corps in advance of a due proportion of European and Native Infantry. It appears to me that every corps in advance should be composed of a certain proportion of Infantry and Regular Cavalry and if possible of Europeans, as I consider any regularly composed army of this description to be superior to any force which the whole collected armies of the Native States can now assemble.

14 Adverting to the state of our military power and resources, and to the condition of the Mahratta armies it appears to me that all corps of irregular troops in our service may now be reduced. The expense of these corps is great and their reduction would afford immediate relief. Care must be taken however to make a suitable provision for the Native Corps who will otherwise be compelled to seek service with the enemy. It is possible that the irregular corps may be disposed of among the attendants and the officers formerly in Sindia's service may be distributed among the several irregular corps. The Corps of Nagahs entertained in Bundelkhund if not already discharged, may in all probability be dismissed immediately.

15 With regard to the sepoy Battalions in Bundelkhund, who quitted the service of Ambajee and of Sindia, to enter into our service, it may not be advisable to disband them, if they can be employed without expense to the

British Government Three of them might be allotted to the Ranah of Gohud and three might be employed at Delhi instead of the three Battalions of Nujehs under Colonel Ochterlony. I understand that two of Sindia's former Battalions are already under Colonel Ochterlony at Delhi. This arrangement would therefore provide for eight of these Battalions.

16 Perhaps the Subahdar of Jhansi, as we have engaged to protect him would receive one or two of these Battalions and the remainder might be disposed of among our other allies and dependants. The Begum Sumroo may also be induced to take into her service some of the irregular Corps to be commanded by British Officers and to dismiss all Frenchmen who now may be in her service.

17 Shaikh Kullah Ally and any other Native commanders who have conducted themselves to the satisfaction of your Lordship should be liberally rewarded. These commanders may perhaps object to be placed under the command of an officer in the Company's service. At all events it is of the utmost importance to dispose of these Corps as soon as may be possible. Every effort should also be made to reduce all other extra charges of every description without delay and the greatest exertion should be used to settle our conquests and to secure the Revenue from them.

18 On all these points I request your Lordship to transmit to me a detailed report as soon as may be practicable. I request your Lordship also to transmit to me with all convenient expedition a return of all the irregular cavalry.

19 I shall also be happy to receive from your Lordship statements of the quantity of grain and stores collected at the different depots as well as of the ordnance cattle stores etc and also to learn from you the portion of supplies which you would desire to draw from Benares and Patna.

20 The enclosed copies of orders to the Governments of Fort St George and Bombay will apprise your Lordship of my intentions with regard to the troops under those Governments respectively and will enable your Lordship to regulate your proceedings with reference to the distribution of the troops in the Province of Guzerat and in the Deccan.

21 Copies of this dispatch have been transmitted to the Governments of Fort St George and Bombay and to Colonel Close.

Letter No 5—It is an enclosure to the letter from the Chief Secretary to Government to Elphinstone of 24th July. It supplies useful information pertaining to the strength of Holkar, Sindhia, Ameer Khan and their activities and inclinations. The Governor of Bombay is desired to keep Gujrat safe from their attacks.

The memorandum attached to this enclosure is dated 24th July and perhaps prepared by Lt-Col Malcolm at Mathura. The memorandum is valuable because it gives plan of campaign drawn up long before the offensive started and clearly sets forth the strategy to be adopted in the War.

FROM—N B EDMONSTONE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT
FORT WILLIAM

TO—THE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT BOMBAY

Fort William 24th July 1805

As it may be useful in the present situation of affairs that the Hon ble the Governor in Council should possess accurate information regarding the state of the forces under the Mahratta Chieftains in Hindostan His Excellency the Most Noble the Governor General in Council had directed me to communicate to you for the information of the Governor in Council

at Bombay the following heads of intelligence submitted to His Excellency by Lieut-Colonel Malcolm on the 28th of June 1805 Lieut-Colonel Malcolm is at present at Muttra, the headquarters of the British Army under the personal command of the Right Hon'ble Lord Lake and is charged with the temporary execution of the duties entrusted to Mr Mercer who has proceeded to Calcutta on the Public Service

2 The total strength of the armies of Sindia, Holkar and Meer Khan exclusive of Meer Khan's Infantry and a small party commanded by Jeswant Singh who has obtained possessions of the person of Cashee Rao Holkar, and who has lately joined Yeshwant Rao Holkar is computed by Lieut-Colonel Malcolm to amount to about five thousand regular infantry with one hundred and forty guns, twelve thousand silledar horse, and about twelve thousand Pindaris In this collected force consists the whole of the actual strength of Jeswant Rao Holkar and Dowlat Rao Sindia

3 The corps of Infantry are in a state of inferior equipment The principal body of Sindia's Infantry was commanded by Baptiste who has since been disgraced and put into confinement The remainder is under the command of an American named Jacob, who was assisted by a few Portuguese Officers and who is responsible for the discipline of the corps, but the Chief Command and the payment of the corps is entrusted to a Brahmin Mootasuddee, and the Corps has lately been much diminished by desertion Baptiste's corps consisted of nine Battalions but has also been diminished by desertion and is now commanded by Bapojee Sindia, who has three Battalions of his own which are in a very reduced state of discipline and equipment

4 Jeswant Rao Holkar's force now consists of about 1,500 Pagah Horse and about 7,000 Mahdar Horse including a party of about 1,200 attached to Meer Khan There is, besides this corps, another of Infantry consisting nominally of eight Battalions, but whose total numbers do not exceed eighteen hundred men The Corps of Jeswant Rao's Infantry is commanded by Hernaut Dada and is chiefly consisted of the remains of the Sindia's six Battalions of Infantry which formed the strength of Jeswant Rao Holkar's force at the commencement of the War, but which we nearly destroyed at the battle of Deeg, and in subsequent actions

5 The Artillery of the combined armies of Sindia and Holkar amounting to 140 pieces of Cannon is of various calibres, from three to nine pounders which are in general unserviceable and very ill-equipped Of the corps of Golundauze which formerly belonged to Sindia, not above 200 now remain and these are mutinous and discontented for want of pay

6 Meer Khan's Infantry is stated by Mr Jenkins on the 29th of March 1805 to have amounted to six Battalions nominally Their total number was about fifteen hundred men and these corps were very inferior in their equipments and discipline The greater part of Meer Khan's Infantry is generally at Seronge or in the vicinity of that place and is commanded by a Mussalman named Shah Mohammed Khan by whom it is employed to collect the Revenues of that province and to exact tributes from the petty chiefs in the vicinity

7 The small party under Jeswant Singh stated in the 2nd paragraph of this letter amounts to about 1,200 Horse, and four weak and ill-appointed Battalions, with some guns Yeshwant Singh has lately been plundering in Malwa in the name of Cashee Rao Holkar, and it is reported that it is the present intention of Jeswant Rao Holkar to proclaim Cashee Rao Holkar as the nominal head of the Holkar family

8 The advance of the Right Hon ble Lord Lake to the Chumbul in the month of April produced the effect of a defeat on the armies of Dowlat Rao Sindia and Jeswant Rao Holkar and the precipitate and long marches which those Chieftains were compelled to make at a most severe season of the year occasioned the loss of great numbers of men, horses and cattle. They were afterwards forced to leave Kotah and to march through the hills by a pass considerably to the westward of Boondree whence they have moved to their present position near Shahpore. In their march through the Boondree Hills Sindia and Holkar are stated by Colonel Malcolm to have suffered severely by the depredations of the Meenas (a plundering tribe which infests the hills in that quarter) who after destroying many of their followers and plundering their baggage made an attack on Jeswant Rao Holkar in person but in this attempt the Meenas are stated to have been repulsed with loss.

9 The price of grain for the last month in the Mahratta Camps has been under four seers for a rupee. Sindia cannot expect any revenue from his southern possessions as long as he remains in the Northern quarter of Hindustan. Jeswant Rao Holkar has not any regular revenue and has always placed his whole dependence on the plunder of his neighbours. It appears therefore that the existing resources of these Chieftains are insufficient to pay or maintain for any period of time even their present reduced and dispirited force which must gradually diminish unless new resources can be devised for their payment which in the actual state of Hindustan scarcely appears to be possible. They have been supported for the last three months by the funds which were extorted from Ambajee Inglia who has since been released and declared (as it stated) Minister to Sindia in room of Serjy Rao Ghautka. These funds must now be exhausted as is evident from the numerous desertions from the armies of Sindia and Holkar for want of money to pay the troops.

10 Sindia has been deserted by Moonshee Kavyal Nym and the only Civil Officer of rank remaining in his service are Bapoo Chitnavees, Ramachandra Bhaskar (commonly called Anna Sie Navees an Officer of neither influence or ability) and Ambajee Inglia. Bipoojee Sindia and Sedashiv Rao (often called Bhau Bhaskar) who have neither any character as commanders are the only Military officers of rank remaining with Sindia.

11 The desertions from Holkar's Army have been numerous and of a great injury to the reputation and strength of that Chieftain's power from the rank and character of the Officers who have abandoned him for times among these are Holkar's Bukshee Bhawani Shankar the Nabob Moostefa Khan Mohammed Khan Afreede Ushreef Khan, Bahadur Khan and Ushraf Beg Meer Khan Nujab Khan Wahib Ali Khan Bungiesh and Shahmut Khan the only remaining officers in his army of any reputation offered also to desert from him but their demands were so exorbitant that they were rejected by Lord Lake.

12 It is reported that Sindia and Holkar intend to canton their armies during the rains in Ajmere. But the Governor General in Council is persuaded that the Hon ble the Governor in Council at Bombay will not in any account relax his vigilance in attending to the security of the province of Guzerat and in maintaining the British Troops in that quarter in a constant state of efficiency and preparation for active duty whenever their services may be required.

13 The army under Major General Jones at Tonk Rampoora is in good health and may be expected to be ready to move in the month of August. The Grand Army under the personal command of Lord Lake is cantoned on the Right Bank of the Jumna and is also in a state of efficient preparation for active service at a moment's notice. The Corps

under Colonel Martindell is in the vicinity of Narnea, and the Right Hon'ble Lord Lake in conformity to the instructions of the Governor-General has established a Subsidiary Force of three Battalions of sepoys with a due proportion of artillery in the province of Gohud

14 The Governor-General in Council desires that such parts of this intelligence as may appear to be necessary may be communicated to Colonel Woodingden and to the Resident at Baroda

15 I am directed by the Governor-General in Council to add, that neither Sindia nor Holkar since their junction have made any attempt to violate the territories of the Company or of the allies, and that all Sindia's professions to Mr Jenkins are of the most pacific nature. It is, however, impossible to place any reliance upon assurances tendered under such circumstances. The Governor-General in Council still entertains a strong hope, that all commotion in India may speedily be appeased upon the basis of the late treaties of Peace and Subsidy, and the appointment of Ambajee to the Chief Administration of Sindia's affairs may probably accelerate such an issue of the present disturbances. But it appears to be more prudent to rest our security in all quarters upon an early and effectual state of preparation for war. The manifestation of a prompt disposition to repel aggression and to enforce the respect due to the British Power will certainly check the designs of all our enemies and may be expected to convince all the powers of Hindustan and the Deccan that the most prudent course of policy which can be pursued by them, will be to concur in confirming and consolidating the equitable principles of the late general pacification

Letter No. 6 —The enclosure to this letter notified to the British Residents at Hyderabad, Poona, Baroda and Mysore, that Sarji Rao Ghatgay was regarded as a public enemy, who must be apprehended and handed over to his master Dowlat Rao Sindhia

FROM—N B EDMONSTONE, SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,
TO—M ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

Fort William, 19th October 1805

I am directed by the Hon'ble the Governor-General to transmit to you for your information the enclosed copy of a circular letter to the Residents at Hyderabad, Poona, and Baroda of the present date, announcing the determination of the British Government to consider Serjee Rao Ghautka, the late Minister of Dowlat Rao Sindia, in the light of a public enemy, and to request that you will take an early opportunity to communicate this resolution to the court of Nagpore

TO—THE RESIDENTS AT HYDERABAD, POONA, BARODA,
AND MYSORE

Sir,

The conduct of Serjy Rao Ghautka, late Minister of Dowlat Rao Sindia, having been notoriously such as to place him in the condition of a public enemy to the British Government and Dowlat Rao Sindia having signified to the Right Hon'ble Lord Lake, his special request that Serjy Rao Ghautka may be considered and treated by every British constituted authority, as a rebel, to his Government and the nature of the connection and the spirit of the engagements subsisting between the British Government and Dowlat Rao Sindia acquiring that the British Government and

his allies collectively and individually should not only withhold from Serj Rao Ghautka all continuance and protection but should take advantage of any opportunity which may offer of seizing his person for the purpose of being delivered up to Dowlit Rao Sindia or otherwise disposed of as may in that event be determined. I am directed by the Honble the Governor General to signify to you that Serj Rao Ghautka is henceforward to be considered in the light of a public enemy of the British Government and of a rebel to the authority of his legitimate sovereign and to desire that you will immediately signify this determination to His Highness the Peshwa requesting His Highness on the ground of his alliance with the British Government to issue orders to his officers and directing them to employ their utmost exertions as opportunities may offer in acting against Serj Rao Ghautka as a public enemy of the State and in endeavouring to seize his person.

2 You will be pleased to transmit a copy of this letter to the Officer commanding the Subsidiary Force with Instructions to apprise the officers in charge of Detachments from the force under his command of the determination announced in this letter.

3 A copy of this dispatch with corresponding instructions will be transmitted to the Governments of Fort St George and Bombay.

I have the honour to be

Sir

Benares

Your most obedient humble servant

19th October 1805

(Sd) N B EDMONSTONE

Secretary to Government

Letter No 7—Edmonstone reports the death of Cornwallis and asks Elphinstone to assure the Bhonsla that there will be no change in the attitude and policy of the new Governor-General Sir George Barlow towards the Bhonsla. He intimates the situation of affairs concerning the Sindia and the Holkar. The Holkar is reported to be at Pallala expecting help from the King of Kabul and Ranjit Singh both of whom as the enclosures to this letter reveal are averse to giving him any help. The enclosures are important.

FROM N B EDMONSTONE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

TO—M S ELPHINSTONE RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

Camp on the river near Allahabad 26th October 1805

I am directed to transmit to you the enclosed letter to the Raja of Benar under date 19th instant from the Honble the Governor General announcing the decease of Marquis Cornwallis and the succession of the Honble Sir George Barlow, Baronet to the Office of Governor General with copies in English and Persian for your information.

2 You will observe in that letter a reference to you for further particular. The principal object of that reference is to accredit you as the representative of the British Government under the present administration. It will merely be necessary that you should make a representation to the Raja in the spirit of the Governor General's letter, and endeavour to satisfy His Highness that no change whatever in the favourable sentiments and intentions of the British Government towards him will be occasioned by the unhappy event of Marquis Cornwallis's decease. It may be proper, however that you should take this opportunity of apprising the Raja that under the orders of the late Governor General considerable

progress has been made in a negotiation with Dowlat Rao Sindia for the satisfactory adjustment of all points of difference between that Chieftain and the British Government. Dowlat Rao Sindia having previously complied with the requisitions of the British Government for the separation of his interests from those of Jeswant Rao Holkar, and for the dismissal of Mr Jenkins who has since arrived at the headquarters of the British Army and that it is the intention of the Governor-General to prosecute that negotiation upon the basis on which it has been commenced

3 By the latest accounts Jeswant Rao Holkar had arrived with the cavalry of his army, stated to consist of no more than 6,000 Sillahdar horse and above 7,000 Pindaris at Puttela (Patiala?) none of the six Chieftains of note had joined him Holkar's infantry with a small number of ill-appointed artillery has been left to act against the possessions of the Company in Hindustan Measures, however, have been adopted by the Right Hon'ble Lord Lake to arrest the progress of Holkar's Infantry and to cut off the retreat of Holkar himself if he should attempt to return to Hindustan With a view to enable you to apprise the Raja of the little probability of Holkar's obtaining any support either from the Raja of Lahore, or from the King of Kabul, I am directed to transmit to you the enclosed papers of intelligence from which it appears that the Raja of Lahore is not in a condition to afford Holkar any aid, and that great dissensions prevail among the Sikh Chieftains, and that Shuja-ool-Moolk, the King of Kabul, is not only precluded by the danger of revolt in any foreign expedition, but manifests no disposition to attend to the solicitations of Holkar's vakeel who appears to be treated with indignity and neglect Under the circumstances indeed of Holkar's retreat from Hindustan, with so inconsiderable force, it cannot be supposed that either the Chief of Lahore, or the King of Kabul would be encouraged to support his cause, even though the internal state of their respective Governments admitted of their engaging in a distant expedition Jeswant Rao Holkar, however, has industriously endeavoured by fabricated intelligence to propagate a belief that he will return to Hindustan accompanied by a force of Dooraunies and by the troops of the Raja of Lahore, and the principal Sikh Chieftains

TO—RAJA RAGGOJEE BHONSLA

19th October 1805

Before your receipt of this letter Your Highness will have received the afflicting intelligence of the decease of the Most Noble Marquis Cornwallis, Governor-General of the Hon'ble Company's possession, and Commander-in-Chief of the British Forces in India In consequence of this unhappy event the Government of the Company's dominions has devolved upon me according to a provisional arrangement of the Supreme authority in England

Your Highness's knowledge of the great qualities which distinguished that illustrious Nobleman, and of the personal regard which His Lordship entertained for you will have excited in Your Highness's mind a peculiar degree of concern and regret at the occurrence of this unhappy event

Your Highness, however, may be assured that this misfortune will occasion no change whatever in the disposition of the British Government towards you

I am apprized of the letter which the late Governor-General addressed to you under date the 18th September I deem it proper to inform Your Highness that I entirely concur in the sentiments and intentions expressed in that letter, and that it is my determined resolution to act in conformity

to them Your Highness will accordingly be pleased to consider that letter to be of the force and validity with reference to my authority as if it had been addressed to you under my seal and signature

I deem it proper to inform Your Highness, that I have judged it expedient to proceed to the upper provinces for the arrangement of affairs to the Westward and that I am arrived at Benares

I or further particulars I beg leave to refer Your Highness to the representations of the Resident Mr Elphinstone

(A true copy)

N B EDMONSTONE Secy to Govt

Lahore

8th October 1805

It is said that His Majesty Shah Shuja-ool Mulk who intends to punish the Governor of Kashmir and means to proceed by the way of Peshawar Shah Zada Kysur had intended to put Fatch Khan to death, when His Majesty heard of this he sent the prince a lakh of rupees as the price of his blood ordering him to spare his life and send him to the presence he also sent a Peishkidmut to Kandhar in order to bring up Fatch Khan from thence When the Peishkidmut arrived there he informed that the Shahzada and Fatch Khan were connected in the strictest friendship and had resolved conjointly to throw off their allegiance The Peishkidmut was told that Fatch Khan should not be given up His Majesty astonished at this conduct held frequent consultations on the subject with the Prime Minister and in consequence of which the intended march to Peshawar is postponed for the present

[Translation of a letter from Mohammed Abbas Khan Moe-ool Moolk at Kabul to Colonel Ochterlony dated 17th Jemmedee-oo-sance (13th September 1805)]

Your two letters made me happy by their arrival I have learnt that the Nabob my father had set out for this place He is not yet arrived when he comes you shall hear all particulars for wherever I am nothing shall be done contrary to your wishes

Abdoolah Khan Holkar's vakeel is here and no more credit at this place than a dog and everybody can see through the falsity of his representations He has not yet received any answers to his letters

Letters from the Vizier-ool Momaluk to the address of the Governor General and Lord Lake which were formerly sent have not yet received any replies as these attentions had to the increase of friendship Answers ought to be sent and indeed it would be proper to address the king himself in order to strengthen the amity between the two States I make these suggestions as a faithful adherent to the Company

(True copies)

N B EDMONSTONE

Secretary to Government

Intelligence from a secret agent in the Sikh Country received at Muttra the 9th October

Runjeet Singh for this last seven years has been occupied in taking possession of Lahore and the districts adjoining to the prejudice of Goojur Singh is now master of the Punjab He lately assembled about twenty thousand horse and foot and marched against Kootubooddeen Khan Afghan but

was completely unsuccessful in that expedition in consequence of which the Raja's occupying the districts of Rotas, Jhelum, etc., have rebelled against him and defeated his troops. In short his Government is now in a tottering condition, and his own troops will not obey his orders being officered by his favourites and relations who are destitute of abilities.

Kootuboodin Khan on the contrary has everything in the highest order. Saheb Singh, Raja of Patiala, is so very weak and stupid that his affairs are daily falling into confusion. Ranjeet Singh is now making levies and collecting troops near Ramnagar, 80 coss to the northward of Lahore near the river Jhelum.

Sardar Jodah Singh Thouka with the Sikh Chieftains and the Bhungees are in alliance with Kootuboodin Khan and enemies to Ranjeet Singh.

Ranjeet Singh's officers in Amritsar are busily employed in procuring and making up Military Stores.

Holkar and Sindia's Vakeels are now at Kabul in attendance with Shah Shujaool Moolk whom they are endeavouring to excite to an invasion of Hindustan. The king appears to listen to their representations.

Saheb Singh of Guzerat with Josswant Singh and others of the Bhangi tribe also Joud Singh Thouka, etc., conjointly with Kootuboodin Khan are using every endeavour to excite the Afghan Monarch against Ranjeet Singh. A great fair will be held at Amritsar in the month of October.

(A true copy)

N B EDMONSTONE,

Secy to Govt

Letter No. 8.—Edmonstone intimates the Commandant of the Ramgarh Battalion that there was a conspiracy by Amrut Rao, Peshwa's brother and Nana Saheb, Bhonsla's brother, to start an insurrection between Mirzapur and Midnapur.

FROM—N B EDMONSTONE, SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,
TO—CAPTAIN ROUGHSEGE, COMMANDING THE RAM-
GARH BATTALION

Fort William, 9th November 1805

Information has been received that a plan is in agitation under the direction of Amrut Rao for effecting an insurrection within the Company's Provinces, whenever affairs to the westward may appear to afford a favourable opportunity, by clandestinely entertaining troops who are to remain at their habitations in readiness to be collected when required.

It has been stated that the operation of this plan is to extend from Mirzapore to Midnapore and that Amrut Rao who has declined his intention of coming to this place, is to be prepared to support the insurrection. Sir George Barlow is not induced to give much credit to this information but does not think it right to disregard it. If there is any truth in this intelligence Sir George Barlow deems it not improbable that this plan may be combined with the project of an excursion into the district of Ramghar by troops which are reported to be collecting under the direction of the Raja of Berar's brother Nana Sahib in Chhattisgarh.

You will recollect that Amrut Rao was some time at Nagpore and passed through Chhattisgarh on his way to Benares and he may possibly have communicated with Nana Sahib on this subject.

Sir George Barlow therefore thinks it advisable that you should endeavour to ascertain whether there are any troops collected in a suspicious form or position in the province of Chhattisghar and near the Company's frontier and to obtain intelligence with regard to the existence of any concert between Amrut Rao and the Mahiratta officers in Chhattisghar and Ratanpur and that you will suggest such measures as may appear to you to be calculated to repel any attempted incursion if it should appear to be in agitation

It will be proper to proceed with caution in this investigation with a view to obviate suspicion and alarm and Sir George Barlow requests you will keep this communication entirely secret

Letter No 9—Col Close reports the news that he had confidentially received from the Agent of Goa Government in Poona to the effect that the Sindia and Holkar had applied to the Portuguese Governor of Goa for Military aid consisting in 4—5 000 European troops. There was also going on a widespread conspiracy of the Maratha Chieftains in the Deccan in co-operation with the Sindia and Holkar. Enclosures 3 and 4 are very important

FROM—COLONEL CLOSE RESIDENT AT POONA

TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL

Poona 10th November 1805

I have the honour to enclose for your information a copy of a dispatch which I have received from Major General Sir William Clarke containing information of the circumstance of Dowlat Rao Sindia and Jeswant Rao Holkar having applied through the Goa Agent at this station to the Government of that Island for the succour of 5 000 European Troops

You will have seen Honble Sir from the correspondence of this Residency that during the period since February last the Agents of Sindia and Holkar have been anxiously busy in spreading those intrigues all over the Deccan. At Merutch (Miraj) and Kolhapore these Agents have been particularly active appearing there at different times without disguise or secrecy and holding frequent consultations with the different members of the Putwardhan family and the Raja of Kolhapore at which a Karkoon belonging to Ragotim Rao of Hyderabad was said to have been generally present. In the month of June last Captain Sydenham discovered an hostile correspondence which was clandestinely carried on by persons in the Camps of Holkar and Sindia and Mahratta Pharkia and Anand Rao Key sur at Poona the latter having formerly served as Karkoon of Ragotim Rao at the Peshwa's Durbar and a little time previous to that period. Captain Sydenham further ascertained that bills for 5 lakhs of rupees had been granted by Sindia's vakeel at Nagpore on persons at Poona and that this sum was destined for Vishwas Rao Ghatkey at Kolhapore

Shortly after my return hither from the northward at the end of June last the Peshwa sent me original letters addressed by Sindia and Holkar to His Highness's principal servants calculated to withdraw His Highness from his alliance with the Honble Company and immediately afterwards a Mission from Sindia and Holkar consisting of Balajee Koonjur Khandojee Mahadeo and Jeswant Rao Goreporeh was dispatched for the Poona Durbar and you will have further perceived Honble Sir that in my

address No 8 to your predecessor, I communicated a report which had been made to me with a serious air by Byajee Naik that the intrigues of the confederates on this side of India were advanced so far as to afford them the prospect of considerable advantage should they be able to return to the Deccan

When the Mission above noticed commenced its journey, Mr Jenkins gave intimation of the circumstance expressing his apprehension that it was employed for some purpose injurious to the alliance between the Peshwa and the Hon'ble Company and the anxiety which His Highness has since shown that this Mission should not be allowed to come on to Poona has been stated at different times in my correspondence

The foregoing circumstance I have been led to particularize in order that you may be enabled to judge, Hon'ble Sir, that they may tend to corroborate the information communicated by the Goa Agent and entitle it to credit

Since receiving Major General Sir William Clarke's dispatch I have found means to open a secret and confidential communication with Goa Agent and give a narrative which I have just received from him 'I do myself the honour to enclose a copy he has shown great solicitude that his having given this information should be kept a profound secret

Goa, 27th September 1805

My Dear Sir,

It has been reported to me from the neighbourhood of Kistna that the Kolhapore Raja in consequence of late communications from Jeswant Rao Holkar has commenced levying troops with great activity He has appointed Ragonath Rao Mania to the principal command He has been joined by Hary Punt Bhawe, who after the retreat of Futteh Singh Mannea, remained in the neighbourhood of Pandharpur, and by Ragoonath Manea lately a Sirdar with Chintamin Rao

I have the honour to remain,
WILLIAM CLARKE

TO—COLONEL CLOSE, RESIDENT AT POONA

Goa, 29th October 1805

My Dear Sir,

The accompanying papers were this moment communicated to me by the Portuguese Adjutant-General by order of His Excellency the Governor of Goa The information you possess will enable you immediately to determine the extent of credit to be given to the report of the Portuguese Agent at Poona I accompany the papers above alluded to with a translation of the material part

I have the honour to remain,
WILLIAM CLARKE

TO—COLONEL B CLOSE, RESIDENT AT POONA

Report of Vithal Rao, Agent at Poona, from the Government of Goa

'That about five or six months since a Karkoon belonging to Laroba Serwaiswar (who is an inhabitant of Sawant Waree) and serves Sindia in Camp as his Agent for the Goa Affairs paid him a visit at his house in Poona That on enquiring of the Karkoon what had brought him to Poona, he said he was directed from Sindia's Court and was on his way to visit

Wiswas Rao Ghautkey at Kolhapore. That on further enquiry the Karkoon said he was employed on a mission from Sindia and Holkar which he would proceed to explain that he then went on to say that the Mahratta Chieftains were willing to recognize the Treaty of Alliance which subsisted between the Honble the Company and the Peshwa and agree that the Honble Company should keep possession of the territory which had been ceded to it by the Peshwa under the Treaty but could never allow that the British Government should stand between the Peshwa and the different Mahratta Chieftains. That these Chieftains had waged war with the British Government the result of which was that that Government had not only got possession of a large portion of the Mahratta territory but given a considerable division of it to the Nizam, that this act was extremely obnoxious to the Mahratta Chieftains who still were willing to come to an accommodation with the British Government provided it should withdraw its troops from the Mahratta territories and leave the Mahratta Chieftains to hold such intercourse with the Peshwa as they should judge proper. That so disposed the Mahratta Chieftains were desirous that the Portuguese Government at Goa who were in friendship with both sides should interpose in an amicable manner and mediate a pacification that he the Agent having received this information from the Karkoon was induced to give intimation of it to his principal at Goa and afterwards received a reply to this effect that the information which he had communicated should be regarded in the manner that might appear to be most proper. That the Karkoon proceeded on his journey to Kolhapore and since then had not returned to Poona. That after an interval of about 15 days from the departure of the above Karkoon another Karkoon arrived from Larcoba Suwasur who communicated to him from Larcoba that Sindia and Holkar were anxious that the Portuguese Government should assist them with 5000 European Troops or at least 4000. That it was their wish that these troops should be landed on the Sowantwaree district or at some post in the neighbourhood and that the service of those troops should be paid for in money or land as might be most acceptable to the Portuguese Government. That he the Agent accordingly communicated the above solicitation to his Principal at Goa who replied in general terms that he had received the dispatch and comprehended its contents that he the Agent would continue to communicate such information as he might occasionally receive. That this Karkoon too proceeded to join Wiswas Rao Ghautkey at Kolhapore from whence he did not return. That above 5 weeks ago a Jasoos called Sooleaunah arrived from Larcoba in Sindia's Camp and stated that Balajee Koonjur was coming from Sindia's Camp with full powers from that Chieftain and Holkar and that on his arrival he the Agent would be fully informed on every point. That the Jasoos afterwards returned to the northward.

B CLOSE

Resident at Poona

Translated extract of a report in Cypher conveyed to Senhor Manoel Joze Games Laurero Secretary of State at Goa by Vithal Rao Gorksee the Portuguese Agent at Poona under date the 10th instant

Balajee Koonjur formerly Prime Minister to the Peshwa waited on me on the part of Dowlat Rao Sindia requesting me to inform the Governor of Goa that he had need of the assistance of six thousand European Portuguese to chastize the English as they deserved that he requested the Governor to furnish this force and offered to give up one-fourth part of all the country that may be conquered. He proposed that this succour should be sent either to Colabah or to Malwah, and assured me that their reception was adjusted with the Raja of Kolhapore. To bear the expense

of the troops he proposed to give two lakhs of rupees per annum, secured on lands in the neighbourhood of Daman or elsewhere. To this I gave no direct answer, and Balajee waited on me again, to say that he had received fresh letters from Dowlat Rao Sindia, who was anxious for a speedy reply from the Governor to his proposals, which proposals he hoped would be kept secret as possible. That Sindia would himself go in person to receive the succour required and would bring with him fifty thousand Cavalry, besides the Army of the Kolhapore Raja. As soon as the succour should arrive he would deliver the forts of Baroch and the province of Guzerat into their hand."

To this insolent proposal the Secretary of State wrote a letter to the Portuguese Agent at Poona of which the following is a translated extract — Goa, 28th October 1805. "As for your letter in cypher, I did not expose the contents of it to His Excellency knowing that amongst his virtues are conspicuous those of constancy and fidelity to the allies of Portugal, therefore, while I maintain my senses I will never venture to submit to His Excellency such matters as are contained in your letter in cypher, and you may make this my answer known to those who have made you the proposal in question."

Communicated to me by Colonel Joaquin Manoel Correa

WILLIAM CLARKE

Letter No 10 —Roughsedge gives his own impression about the possibility of an attack by Amrut Rao and Nana Sahib on the territories of the Company between Muzapore and Midnapore. He says that an attack by Amrut Rao was not at all likely while there was possibility of an attack by Nana Sahib on Sambalpur and Patna and if it succeeds on the Cuttack province. But he says he had ordered his forces to move to suitable places to forestall such a contingency

FROM—CAPTAIN ROUGHSEDGE, COMMANDING THE RAMGARH BATTALION

TO—N B EDMONSTONE, SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

Hazaribagh, 15th November 1805

I had last night the pleasure to receive your letter of the 9th instant. My official dispatches of the 5th and 9th will have informed you of the state of things in Chhattisgarh and since writing them, I have received no further intelligence from that quarter.

I had this morning an opportunity of conversing with some persons connected with Lohi (Lal) Jaggernaut Singh who have lately returned from Sirgoja. It does not appear that any preparations have taken place in that district either for the reception and subsistence or for the assembling of any troops which in the event of an intended incursion will the district of Ramgarh to be combined with operations under the direction of Amrut Rao would most probably have had the base. It is the general opinion in Sergoojah, however, that this person is on the look-out for a favourable opportunity of making a treacherous attack upon the British possession, and it is certain that Couriers are constantly passing between him and the Officers at Ruttanpore to facilitate the communication. Indeed, shortly after the arrival of Amrut Rao in Sergooja, the Raja of that district by the direction of the Soubahdar of Ruttanpore took into his service a number of cossids for the express purpose of forwarding such dispatches as might arrive from either party.

I cannot take up on myself to assert however that these communications are actually directed to the formation of arrangements of a hostile nature against the British interests but I presume sufficient cause of suspicion exists to warrant the adoption of measures to ascertain the truth

I have this day sent confidential emissaries to a part of Sirgooja through which all messengers passing from Ruttanpore to Benares and *vice versa* must necessarily proceed and I rely on obtaining useful information on their return

There is a small pergunnah also within the British Frontier through which these messengers must pass and with the sanction of Government it would be easy for me to intercept and obtain possession of the letters they might be in charge of

From all the intelligence I have been able to collect it does not appear in my judgment probable that Nana Sahib's present movements have any other objects than Sambalpore or Patna and eventually a predatory incursion into Cuttack (the Report in Furzand Ali's letter of the arrival of 12,000 horse on this side of the Sanjee Guant about 40 coss to the westward of Ruttanpore) I think deserved little credit and at all events a very few days will suffice to ascertain its correctness

On the first movement of the troops at Ruttanpore the object of this march will be easily perceived and should it prove to be Sambalpore a conquest of that district will enable them to choose between a predatory incursion into Cuttack and an invasion through Chota Nagpore (on the inhabitants of which no dependence should be placed) Bengal or Bihar in the event therefore of a decisive movement towards Sambalpore of which I can depend on receiving very early information it seems advisable that a strong detachment should be held in readiness to move towards the south west frontier and in the interim if the disposable part of the Ramghur Battalion (which from your dispatch of the 11th this moment received I find is not to march to Sambalpore) was ordered to occupy a central position in Chota Nagpur its movements could be directed to the defence of any part of the frontier with at least as much facility and more expedition than if it remained at Hazaribagh while in the event of an invasion into the southern or central part of the frontier it would be precisely at the spot where its service would be most required and its occupation of this position would not afford reasonable cause of alarm or suspicion to the Mahrattas

I also beg leave to recommend in the event of any corroboration of the hostile intentions of Nana Sahib or the troops in Chhattisghar an immediate renewal of the former arrangements of the Zamindaree and Gantuarree force on the frontier

In this idea I have been guided by a supposition that it is more likely that Sambalpore and eventually either the province of Cuttack or the south western frontier of this district are the objects of the troops in Chhattisghar than that their operations are intended to be combined with an insurrection under the direction and support of Amrut Rao The force yet assembled at Ruttanpore is trifling and whilst Nana Sahib remains as he is reported to do in the neighbourhood of Chanda there appears to be little reason to apprehend any thing in the first instance beyond an attack upon Sambalpore or Patna In the event of a decisive movement however from Ruttanpore towards Sirgooja it would be necessary to make Palamow Outurree and Bilomua the scene of our defensive operations on this quarter and the disposable part of the Ramghur Battalion which I should wish to be stationed for the present at Lohadugga in Chota Nagpore would in four days take up its position in the Centre of Palamow whilst a number of

troops adequate to the extent of the danger added to the Lemudarree Force under Raja Fattah Narain and the other well affected Amindars in that quarter, might be detailed from Denapore, Gyah, etc., to proper positions in Outarree and Bilonnja on the banks of the Soone

In submitting these ideas for the consideration of Sir George Barlow, I beg leave to add that every exertion in my power not incompatible with the necessary caution the subject requires shall be used to ascertain the nature of the communication subsisting between Amrut Rao and the officers in Chhattisghar and I trust early in the ensuing month to be enabled to address you on the subject

Letter No 11.—The letter and its first four enclosures state clearly the attitude of the Company's Government in regard to the question of the Holkar and Sindhia giving shelter and employment to Saiji Rao Ghatgay

FROM—N B EDMONSTONE,
TO—A SETON, RESIDENT AT DELHI

Fort William, 7th August 1806.

By command of the Hon'ble the Governor General in Council I now proceed to communicate to you the instructions of Government on the subject of your dispatches of the 29th ultimo and 2nd instant the receipt of which was acknowledged in my letter of yesterday's date

2 The Governor General in Council deeming it proper that you should be in possession of the correspondence which has taken place with the Resident at the Court of Dowlat Rao Sindia relative to Serjee Rao Ghautka, I am directed to transmit to you the enclosed copies of the documents noted in the margin

3 You will observe from the instructions of Mr Mercer of the 12th of April, that the occurrence of a reassociation between Holkar and Serjee Rao Ghautka has long been foreseen by Government and that the Governor General in Council has long been desirous of a favourable opportunity for the abrogation of the prohibitory clauses in the Treaties with Sindia and Holkar, which place Serjee Rao Ghautka in the condition of a public enemy That opportunity has now been afforded by the intimation lately conveyed to you on the part of Holkar and the Governor General in Council has taken advantage of it by addressing to Holkar the letter which was enclosed in my dispatch of yesterday's date and my transmitting the instructions of which a copy is enclosed to Mr Mercer

4 As it may be useful to you to be fully informed of the principles and considerations which have influenced the determination of Government in the adoption of this course of proceeding, I am directed to state the following observations which may be considered to be supplementary to those contained in the instructions of Government to Mr Mercer of the 12th of April and 29th of May

5 The conduct of Holkar in receiving Ghautka with marks of public favour and distinction however qualified by the expression of his desire that the motives of it should not be interpreted to his disadvantage, and by his protestations of adherence to the faith of his engagements, may certainly be considered to be a violation of the 7th article of the Treaty of Peace and this position is not affected by an admission of the truth of Holkar's

assertion (an assertion however which Government entirely discredits) that he has acted towards Ghautka in conformity to the declared wish of Sindia. The several modes of proceeding therefore which Government might adopt upon this occasion are these —

1st To declare the Holkar that we consider his conduct towards Ghautka to be a positive violation of the 7th article of the Treaty of Peace and to insist upon his abandoning all connection with Ghautka in which case his refusal or evasion of the demand would render necessary measures of compulsion

2nd Under the same declaration to announce to Holkar the forfeiture of the conditional and prospective concessions of the Treaty without proceeding to the extremity of compulsion in the event of his refusing to relinquish his connection with Serjee Rao Ghautka

3rd To abstain from any notice of Holkar's conduct and to observe a total silence on the subject both towards Holkar and Sindia

4th To adopt the course of proceeding which has actually been pursued. That of taking advantage of Holkar's declaration upon the subject in question to abrogate the stipulation of the 7th article of the Treaty with Holkar and the 10th of the Treaty with Sindia

6 The adoption of any course of conduct involving the immediate issues of war or peace can alone be justified by circumstances in which the security and essential rights of the State are intimately concerned. The arguments which warrant a conclusion that Ghautka's re-association in the Councils of Sindia or Holkar would not expose to danger our security nor constitute a violation of our rights in a degree which would render necessary our opposition to that arrangement at the hazard of war have been stated in the instructions to Mr. Mercer of the 12th of April and need not therefore be repeated in this place. There is no reason to suppose that Holkar's conduct with respect to Ghautka is connected with designs hostile to the British Government. The characteristic disregard of the obligations of public faith which distinguishes all Asiatic States and especially the Maharrattas greatly impairs the validity of any judgment formed in the principles and maxims of European policy and this consideration requires that great allowance should be made for occasional deviations on the part of a Mahratta State from the strict letter of its engagements. The question therefore is reduced to this whether Holkar's re-association of Ghautka in his councils an act which we do not consider as exposing our security to hazard which does not constitute an invasion of our essential rights and is merely a violation of an article of Treaty which it is our wish and our interest to abrogate, should be deemed a just and necessary ground of war. Every violation of Treaty on the part of one of the contracting States considered merely as such does not constitute either a just or necessary ground of war. Some positive invasion of essential rights some acquired advantage of a nature menacing to the security of the other State some manifest and deliberate insult to its dignity or some direct indication of hostile designs must be connected with such violation of Treaty to constitute a legitimate and necessary ground of war

7 Holkar's reception of Ghautka invades no right that it is an object of any importance to maintain. It does not place his power in a menacing position nor in a state of prosecuting hostilities against us with any additional advantage, and is not therefore a subject of alarm viewed in its most unfavourable light. It does not constitute that degree of insult to our dignity which by the Law of Nations is admitted to be of the nature of a

hostile aggression There is not sufficient reason to conclude that Holkar intended to offer any insult to the British Government his reception of Ghautka being ascribable to other causes and being accompanied by expression of his hope that his conduct may not be interpreted to his disadvantage and by a declaration of his resolution to maintain the faith of his engagement by which must be understood the spirit of these engagements the maintenance of the relations of amity and peace, for the same reasons Holkar's reception of Ghautka does not indicate, the contemplation of hostile designs against the British Government, none of those acts or manifest designs, therefore, which constitute a just and necessary ground of war appear to be connected with Holkar's violation of the 7th article of the Treaty of Peace

8 It is the resolution of the British Government, a resolution not more founded on the considerations of interest, than on those of public justice and humanity, to abstain from the prosecution of war against any State, excepting only for the purpose of repelling designs indisputably hostile to us or our allies or menacing to the security and tranquillity of our dominions The mere circumstance of Holkar's reception of an individual so powerless and contemptible as Ghautka, although inconsistent with a positive stipulation of Treaty cannot under the circumstances above described be referred to designs of that nature nor is there any regular or positive connection between the means and the supposed end

9 To incur the hazard of renewing a war unavoidably productive of embarrassments and evils which no success could compensate, on grounds of chimerical or at least of speculative justice and necessity would be equally inconsistent with our interests, with the principles of policy which we profess to maintain and with the provisions of legislature To incur the hazard of a renewal of war indeed on account of a character so insignificant and contemptible as Ghautka would be ascribing to him a degree of consequence which it would be injurious to our dignity and to the reputation of our power to admit

10 It is superfluous to remark that to institute a demand for the dissolution of this recent connection between Holkar and Ghautka without resolving to compel his acquiescence would hazard the most injurious consequences to our interests and reputation

11 Many of the observations above detailed apply to the mode of proceeding stated under the 2nd head, in addition to which it may be remarked that it is extremely desirable to avoid all discussions with Holkar or any other State of an irritating nature and consequently to remove rather than to excite any subjects of difference It is principle of our policy to withdraw as much as possible from all connection with States not allied to the British Government and to preclude a collision of interests by limiting our relations with States of that description to those of mere amity and concord It is desirable, therefore, to abrogate the stipulations of Treaty relative to Ghautka. But that object could not be obtained by the course of proceeding described under the 2nd head nor would the inconvenience and embarrassment which (as explained in the instructions to Mr Mercer of the 12th April) must permanently be hazarded by maintaining that stipulation, be precluded by it Admitting even that Holkar, rather than abandon the prospective benefits of the 3rd and 4th articles of the Treaty would consent to dissolve his connection with Ghautka the necessity of supporting that stipulation in future would continue and the

same embarrassment would be liable to recur to Sindia, since no more forcible reason would exist for abrogating it at a future period of time than exists at the present. Should Holkar refuse to abandon his connection with Ghautka we should be exposed to the discredit of having urged on unsuccessful demand. Ghautka would still be considered in the light of a public enemy and his intrigues and proceedings would consequently be directed to purposes injurious to the British interests. The transaction would excite mutual distrust and suspicion between the British Government and Holkar. The declared forfeiture of the benefits of the 3rd and 4th articles would not preclude vexatious applications on the part of Holkar for the accomplishment of their conditional stipulations which would constitute a source of perpetual irritation and a permanent cause of a difference and discussion. The disadvantage and embarrassment of such a state of things are obvious and are decisive with regard to the inexpediency of adopting the course of measures proposed under the 2nd Head.

12 Our total silence upon the occasion of Holkar's renewed proceedings relative to Ghautka would obviously be ascribed to motives highly injurious to our reputation without producing the beneficial effect of a declared abrogation of the prohibitory article.

13 These are the considerations which have induced the Governor General in Council to adopt the course of proceeding described under the 4th head which, being founded on Holkar's exculpatory explanation of his conduct relieves us altogether from the embarrassment and inconvenience of the stipulation relative to Ghautka without any compromise of dignity.

14 I am directed to signify to you that the tenor of your reply to Holkar's letter copies of both of which (unaccompanied however by translations) were enclosed in your dispatch of the 29th ultimo is conformable to the sentiments and intentions of Government but that instead of signifying to Holkar that you considered every question between the British Government and him to have been settled it would have been more advisable to apprise him that you should refer his letter to Government and communicate to him whatever reply you should be instructed to make. A direct refusal on the part of the supreme authority of Government to comply with Holkar's unreasonable requests would probably have the effect of finally suppressing all further solicitation.

15 I am directed on this occasion to intimate to you the expediency of your availing yourself of any opportunity to correct an erroneous supposition which Holkar appears to entertain that the political power lately exercised by the Right Honble the Commander in Chief have devolved upon the Resident at Delhi by giving Holkar to understand that the Commander in Chief in referring him to the Resident merely intended that Holkar should consider that officer as the regular channel of communication with the British Government in the same manner and with the same limited authority as Residents at other Courts. This observation is applicable to all the native Chiefs with whom you may have occasion to communicate in your official capacity of Resident at Delhi. Your situation with regard to Holkar may be considered to be parallel to that of the officer holding the appointment of Resident at the Court of Mahajee Sindia and Dowlat Rao Sindia in former years when the Resident was stationary at Futtegharh and there transacted the political business between the two Governments.

Letter No. 12 —Mercei encloses a copy of his letter to the Governor-General in which he describes the condition of affairs of the Holkar, Sindhia and certain Chiefs of Rajputana. The letter throws light on the disposition of the Holkar to renew a war with the British, the state of his affairs and that of the Sindhia

FROM—G MERCER, RESIDENT WITH DOWLAT RAO SINDHIA,

TO—M ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

Camp North-east of Raigarh, 9th October 1806

I have the honour to transmit for your information a copy of my address of the 6th instant to the Hon'ble the Governor-General in Council

TO—THE HON'BLE SIR G H BARLOW, BARONET, GOVERNOR-GENERAL IN COUNCIL, FORT WILLIAM

Hon'ble Sir,

This army has made no movement since I had the honour to address you on the 28th ultimo and it is now understood that Dowlat Rao Sindia will remain upon this ground till after the Dasherah

2 The negotiation with Ambajee still remains undecided He had agreed to the payment by instalments of twelve lakhs of rupees upon being confirmed in the possession of Nerwar Subhulghar and the Soobadary of the Mewar country Sindia has demanded the immediate payment of this amount but a mutual distrust of the intentions of each other has hitherto prevented any adjustment There appears at present but little probability that Ambajee will resume the administration of Sindia's affairs or indeed that any efficient administration will be formed as His Highness seems unwilling to delegate authority to any party whilst he can conduct matters through the agency of his private favourites of whom Deobah is the person now principally consulted

3 Three Battalions and a party of horse have been sent forward towards Bhopal from whence Mohammed Shah Khan with Meer Khan's Brigade had retired, towards Seronge It is Sindia's intention, I understand, to endeavour to unite the parties of Vazeer Mohammed Khan, the former Minister of Bhopal, and that of Goss Mohammed Khan, the son of the Nawab of Bhopal, who is himself incapable of management and to support the two Sirdars in the administration of the affairs of the province under his own influence It appears improbable, however, from the present state of Sindia's affairs and the prevalent belief that Holkar will speedily march to this quarter, that he will be enabled to carry this arrangement into effect, and it will probably end in the demand of a sum of money from the Pindarah Kareem Khan for the permission to continue his plunder and control of the province as hitherto

4 Serjee Rao Ghautka has plundered the town of Belwarah in the Udaipore province and marched from thence to the southward of Chittore where he continues to subsist his people by exactions from the neighbouring villages He has requested the Sindia the Fort and country of Bilsah as an aid and which has been refused him, with an assurance, however, that he will be otherwise provided for

5 Jeswant Rao Holkar continued encamped near Pokur on the 26th ultimo, and had not then been enabled to come to any settlement with the Pitans of the Hyderabad Rassalah whose Chiefs have made offers

lately to Sindia of entering into his service and delivering over to him the person of Khinde Rao. These offers have not been accepted but Holkar has declared his suspicions that Serje Rao Ghrutika has been engaged in fomenting these disturbances and in encouraging the Rissleah to refuse every accommodation short of the full payment of their arrears.

6. A report prevailed in Camp a few days ago that Holkar had again sent his family to Jodhpore and had commenced his march towards Kotah, and it was at the same time mentioned in the Durbar apparently with the view of obviating the effects which this Intelligence might have in the present state of the army, that it was understood to be his intention to attack the Row Raja at the instigation of the Raja of Jaipore who had promised his assistance on the ground of the Row Raja having formerly been a dependant of the Jaipore State and its being incumbent on him to have borne a proportion of the contribution levied upon the Raja of Jaipore. It has also for some time past been asserted with more probability that Holkar had received offers from Raja Sansar Chand of Nadoon of a large sum of money for his assistance against the Nepaul Government and this appears to have given rise to the report mentioned in my address No. 37 of the 30th August of Holkar's intention to march after the rains towards the Sikh country.

7. Whilst the state of Holkar's troops and of this resource appears so little calculated to enable him to undertake any distant expedition or to support the consequences of an attack on the Row Raja the situation of his affairs with Sindia would seem entirely to preclude all likelihood of his having formed such intentions. Although these Chiefs are I believe, equally averse to an open warfare with each other where so little could be gained yet their personal interests are so much at variance that either would consider an advantage gained by the other as a calamity to himself and no benefit which Holkar could even promise himself from the prosecution of such measures as the above would compensate. I conceive in his own opinion for the advantage which Sindia would derive from the undisturbed control over the countries of both which he would not fail to exercise during Holkar's absence.

I have the honour to be
GROME MERCER
Resident at Dowlat Rao Sindia

CAMP 8 MILES NORTH-EAST
FROM RAGEGHUR PALUR,
6th October 1806

PINDARIS

Letter No 1.—Border raids into the Company's district of Midnapore (Bengal) by the Zamindar of Morbhunj (Orissa) under the Bhonsla are reported Raghoji assures prompt action against the marauders.

FROM—H COLEBROOKE, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR,

TO—G H BARLOW, ESQUIRE, SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT, FORT WILLIAM

Nagpur, 1st August 1799

In obedience to the orders of the Hon'ble acting President in Council I made an application to the Raja of Berar the result of which I had the honour to report on the 24th ultimo In answer to the further representations I have thought it necessary to make, the Raja assures me, that he has dispatched by express messengers positive and unqualified orders to his officers in Cuttack to prevent any repetition of outrages in the territories of the Company He also assures me that the offenders shall be punished so soon as the necessary information regarding them shall be received from Cuttack

2 I have not been furnished with a copy of the orders above mentioned but the following is stated to me by the Raja's Moonshee as the purport of them That since strict friendship has long subsisted between both States, he therefore requires the officers at Cuttack to restrain the Zamindars of Morbhunj from outrages and acts of violence They (the Sooba and Dewan of Cuttack) ought to have reported the circumstances and are now called upon to do so They are positively enjoined not to suffer my outrages to take effectual measures to prevent all acts of violence in future

TO—H COLEBROOKE, ESQR, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

Sir,

I am directed by the Hon'ble the Vice President in Council to transmit to you the enclosed extract of a letter from Lieutenant-Colonel Watson, respecting a late inroad made by some marauders from the Mahratta's Territories contiguous to the frontiers of Midnapore, and to desire that you will make the necessary application to the Raja of Berar to take effectual measures for preventing similar incursions in future and for punishing the authors of the present outrage

The frays and disputes which occur between the zamindars on the Midnapore frontier and those under the Mahratta jurisdiction, having been ascribed in a great deal to the villages and lands of the respective States on the frontier being so intermixed, that a village or tract of country belonging to one State is often situated at a considerable distance within the general line of the other A copy of all the papers on this subject will be forwarded to you for your information and the Vice President in Council will suggest to the Right Hon'ble the Governor General in Council for his consideration how far it may be expedient to authorize you to enter into a negotiation with the Raja of Berar for an exchange of the villages or lands in question, so as to form a regular and an uninterrupted line of frontier between the two countries, and thereby remove the grounds of the evil in question

FORT WILLIAM
The 17th June 1799

I am, etc , etc ,
G H BARLOW,
Secretary to Government.

TO—THE RIGHT HON B L^T EARL OF MORNINGTON K P
GOVERNOR GENERAL

My Lord

I have only this day received from Raja Raghojee Bhonsla the duplicate of the order issued to the Subdar of Rutunpoor and to the Zamindar of Sirgooja as promised in the interview reported in the dispatches I had the honour to address to Your Lordship on the 17th instant. The procrastination so common at this court has been more than usually great in the present instance notwithstanding the frequent messages I have sent to hasten the despatch of the orders to the Zamindar of Sirgonja. The apology offered in extenuation of it is grounded on the circumstance that Sirgooja is a dependency of Rutunpoor which constitutes a part of the appanage of Ninjee (Nanaji) Bhonsla and the forms observed by Raghojee Bhonsla in interfering in his brother's appanage are productive of tedious delays.

2 With the duplicate above mentioned the Raja sent me a copy of the representation received from Balbhuder Shah Zamindar of Sirgooja and requested I would write to the Magistrate of Ramghur desiring him to restrain the Zamindar of Chhota Nagpore from encroaching on the established limit of Sirgooja. At the same time he assured me that he wholly disbelieved the representations of the Zamindar of Sirgooja. On perusing Balbhuder Shah's Arzee I find that he styles three pergunahs to have been seized by the Europeans (such is the disrespectful style of the Arzee) and names districts two of which if not all three have I believe belonged to Ramghur ever since that district has been annexed in the Company's provinces. I have accordingly declined the Raja's present request but informed him that I should as before desired by him state the matter to Your Lordship who would doubtless if there should be occasion for it command the Magistrate of Ramghur to prevent any encroachment on Sirgooja. I have also pointed out to the Raja, in my answer to his message the futility of the complaints stated by Balbhuder Shah and his direct avowal of his having committed outrages on the Company's territories.

3 A copy and translation of the Arzee above mentioned are this day transmitted to the Persian Translator with the Perwannahs to the Subedar of Rutunpoor and Zamindar of Sirgooja and with translation of them.

4 I have likewise forwarded to the Persian Translator a letter addressed to Your Lordship by Raja Raghojee Bhonsla on the subjects of a suit instituted against his family priest at Gaya for a partition of the presents given by the Raja's mother during her pilgrimage to that place. The Raja has solicited me with great earnestness to recommend the application it contains to Your Lordship's notice. I am at a loss to comply with his request because it relates directly to the matter of a suit pending in the Adalats at Gaya. At the same time I could not put an absolute refusal on his request because his religious prejudices are very nearly concerned and he is naturally interested in the appropriation of gifts made nominally by his relatives, but really by himself on an occasion which more than any other touches his religious feelings. Before I yielded to his earnest entreaties and consented to forward his letter I explained very fully to him the delicacy observed by the British Government in all matters relative to the administration of justice and I wholly discouraged the expectation he seemed to have entertained and the wish he expressed that an injunction should be issued to the Adalats of Gaya and Patna and a duplicate of it be entrusted to him. As he persisted nevertheless on believing that Your Lordship would not deem his application inadmissible I was under the necessity of consenting to forward it.

NAGPORE

The 29th March 1800

H COLEBROOKE

Resident

Letter No. 2.—Colebrooke reports that Raghoji had directed immediate punishment to be inflicted on Ramanand, the Zamindar of Jamkoonda (of Balasore District, Orrisa), for the latter's "participation in the robbery of the Cutcherry of Beekool". Beekool is a place in the northern part of Balasore district today, where there was a Cutcherry, *i e*, administrative establishment or office of the Company.

FROM—H COLEBROOKE, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR,

TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL

Nagpur, 7th June 1800

I had the honour to receive Your Lordship's commands communicated to me by the Persian Translator under date 12th ultimo, and I yesterday delivered to Raja Raghojee Bhonsla Your Lordship's letter to him on the subject of the conduct of Ramanand, Zamindar of Jamkoonda. When it had been read and explained to him, I communicated the evidence which proves the Zamindar of Jamkoonda's participation in the robbery of the Cutcherry of Beekool and after adverting to the further particulars of the barbarous treatment received from the same man by persons driven by distress of weather on the cost of his Zamindary, I represented the necessity of exemplary punishment being inflicted on one guilty of such heinous offences.

2 In reply, Raja Raghojee Bhonsla informed me that he had already received from his vakeel Bissamber Pundit representations on the conduct of the Zamindar of Jamkoonda and had instantly determined to punish him and compel restitution of the effects plundered by him. The Raja then introduced by way of acknowledging Your Lordship's letter, some compliments in the usual style of friendly professions and concluded by assuring me that an ample punishment would be inflicted on the offender. His Moonshee added that orders to this effect would be forthwith issued to the Soobadar of Cuttack by express messengers and a duplicate of them would be furnished to me. He observed that the punishment would be such as would render any other chastisement (alluding to the last paragraph of Your Lordship's letter) unnecessary. A short conversation followed, in which I enforced the necessity of the punishment being an exemplary one, and in which the Raja promised, that it should be made so.

Letter No. 3—Refers to the incursions into Bera by the "numerous marauders who call themselves soldiers of Holkar" and headed by an illegitimate son of the late Tukoji Rao. The troops of the Bhonsla had received a part of their pay, which was long in arrears and because of which there was much discontent.

FROM—H COLEBROOKE, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR,

TO—THE RIGHT HON'BLE EARL OF MORNINGTON, GOVERNOR GENERAL

Nagpur, 20th November 1799

Raja Raghojee Bhonsla set off yesterday to meet his mother on her return from a pilgrimage to the temple of Jagannath. He had previously requested me to await his return here instead of accompanying him on this excursion saying that his absence would be very short, and that he should travel by forced marches which it would be inconvenient for me to follow. I declared myself ready to attend his motions, but finding it was

evidently his wish I should remain here I acquiesced therein. This excursion and another to the temple of Ramtek have been long agitated both have been repeatedly postponed by the Raja after fixing a time for his departure, and that with so much seeming caprice, that even yesterday after making some progress in his first march he returned to Nagpur and again set off after an hour's stay. The uncertainty of his motions was I believe his chief reason for requesting me to wait his return at this place.

2 The numerous marauders who call themselves soldiers of Holkar continue to threaten the north west frontier of the Bhonsla's dominion. They are headed by an illegitimate son of the late Tuckajee Holkar named Yeshwant Rao who bears the most inveterate animosity to the Raja of Berar because he was last year confined at this place for several months at the requisition it is said of Dowlat Rao Sindia. He escaped in disguise and has been since employed in collecting an army of irregular troops with the supposed intention of taking vengeance for the inhospitable treatment he received here when he sought refuge at this court from the oppressions of Sindia. The Raja of Berar does not view with indifference the hostile preparations but intends to chastise the marauders so soon as he shall be at leisure from the arrangement of some affairs which he thinks more urgent. I here repeat a distant intimation received from his Minister but I conceive the only cause for delaying this very necessary measure is the discontent which has long prevailed throughout the Raja of Berar's own troops. They have been lately very clamorous for their pay but a large part of their arrears has been now issued to them and the remainder seems to be in a train of daily liquidation.

3 Nothing further has transpired since the date of my last address to Your Lordship relative to the correspondence of the Raja's nephew with disaffected persons. Though not confirmed he is very strictly watched and is considered as a prisoner at large.

Letter No. 4—Colebrooke reports that the Chief of Saugor had ceded the fort of Mandla with some territory to the Bhonsla as the price of protection against the depredations of Yeshwant Rao Holkar.

FROM—H COLEBROOKE RESIDENT AT NAGPUR
TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL FORT WILLIAM

Nagpur 9th December 1799

In my last address I had the honour to acquaint you that Raja Raghojee Bhonsla had proceeded on an excursion to meet a part of his family returning from Cuttack.

Nothing has since occurred here of sufficient moment to be reported to Your Lordship, except a cession of the Fort of Mandla which has been yielded to the Raja of Berar together with some territory by the Chieftain of Saugor. The intelligence of this event was received here the day preceding the Raja's return to Nagpur and as he early intimated to me an intention of addressing a letter to Your Lordship on the subject I have waited until this day expecting to transmit it with the present dispatch. I am informed that the Chieftain of Saugor has made this cession as the purchase of protection from the Raja of Berar against the depredations of Yeshwant Rao Holkar and that the territory added by him purports to be fourth part of his possessions but I do not learn that any effectual steps have been yet taken to chastise the depredators.

Letter No. 5.—In these two letters Colebrooke refers to the attacks of Meer Khan, a partisan of Holkar, on Saugor, and his defeat by Bhonsla's troops. After his defeat Amir Khan left the territories of Raghonath Rao, the Chief of Saugor, who desired to become a tributary to the Bhonsla. Raghoji did not accept this position without the permission of Poona Government.

FROM—H COLEBROOKE, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR,
TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL

Nagpur, 6th January 1800

Intelligence has been very lately received here that the Raja of Berar's troops under the Command of Itel Pundit and Beni Singh have engaged and defeated a large body of Afghans headed by Meer Khan, a partisan of Iswant Rao Holkar. After plundering the city of Saugor, Meer Khan remained in the neighbourhood of that place until the Raja of Berar's forces advanced from Gurrah Mandla to its relief. He then retired but soon after returned and on the 29th Immadi Ussani answering to the 28th ultimo, attempted to surprize the Bhonsla's troops, whom he found encamped at the distance of four coss from Saugor. He attacked the Camp on two sides at the same instant but was repulsed in both attacks with great loss. The action was very severe and the loss on the Bhonsla's side is stated at about seventy killed (including several persons of note) and a great number dangerously wounded. The Afghans are said to have lost near a thousand men and some stands of colours with other military trophies were taken. This action is here deemed decisive and the Chieftain of Saugor is now considered as effectually relieved. But there seems room to doubt whether the Afghans are finally discomfited. Indeed reports are now current of another engagement having since taken place with doubtful success.

Raghojee Bhonsla has on this occasion manifested real or affected generosity. He has, I understand, declined an offer made by Raghonath Rao to be tributary to him for the whole of Saugor, and has not yet finally accepted the cession of a fourth part of it which I had the honour to mention in my last address to Your Lordship. On the Fort of Mandla and its dependencies the Raja of Berar had a previous claim, but he may perhaps hesitate in accepting further cessions from the Chieftain of Saugor without the sanction of the Poona Government on which Raghonath Rao is considered as dependent.

TO—THE RIGHT HON'BLE THE EARL OF MORNINGTON,
K P, GOVERNOR GENERAL

My Lord,

I have the honour to acquaint your Lordship that Raja Raghojee Bhonsla returned yesterday from an excursion to the temple at Ramtek after an absence of little more than a week. As the object of the excursion was the performance of religious ceremonies at that temple the Raja requested me to remain at this place during his absence, but to give him immediate notice should I meantime, have any thing to communicate to him by Your Lordship's commands. I made no difficulty in acquiescing in this request.

2 Nothing of sufficient importance to be reported to Your Lordship has occurred since the date of my last despatches. The western portion of the Raja's dominions has been sometime relieved from any present danger of further depredations by Shehamet Khan in one place, and by Meer Khan in another. The last named partisan has not again ventured to face Raghojee Bhonsla's troops which were sent to the relief of Saugor and has

entirely evacuated the territories of Raghunath Rao. I do not learn that any final arrangements have been yet made regarding the proposed cession of a part of Saugor to this Government but the Fort of Tuggarh with the territory contiguous to it has been surrendered to the Bhonsla officers by the Chieftain of Saugor.

I have the honour to be, etc. etc

II COLF BROOKE

Resident

NAGPUR

The 6th January 1800

Letter No 6 — Reports that Hoshangabad on the north west frontier of Raghoji's dominion was threatened by the Chieftain of Bhopal aided by Yeshwant Rao Holkar and the Pindari Chief Meer Khan. On the south east frontier the Zamindar of Bastar had gained an advantage over Raghoji's troops and the garrison at Sambalpur had mutinied for arrears of pay.

FROM—II COLF BROOKE RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

TO—THE MOST NOBLE MARQUIS OF WELLESLEY
GOVERNOR GENERAL

Nagpur 18th February 1801

During the last week active preparations have been made for assembling an army at Hoshangabad which is threatened by the Chieftain of Bhopal. That fortress was formerly possessed by him but the Raja of Berar retained an ancient claim to it and recovered the fortress after a long siege a few years ago. The Chief of Bhopal, assisted it is said by Yeshwant Rao Holkar and by the banditti headed by Meer Khan and other partisans has assumed a menacing attitude and immediate incursions are apprehended. The Raja of Berar seems to have himself provoked aggressions from that Chieftain by a recent demand of tribute and Military service. The inveterate enmity of Yeshwant Rao towards the Bhonsla was formerly mentioned to Your Lordship by me, with the circumstances which it originated. The Nawab Ali Bahadur too is supposed to have had some share in instigating the Nawab of Bhopal to invade the Bhonsla's territories and the provocation which he received from Raja of Berar has been noticed in my (indistinct) addressed to Your Lordship (indistinct) the Bhonsla's troops have been now ordered to evacuate Bundelkhand it is not improbable that Ali Bahadur might have previously sketched this method of retaliating.

2 While the Raja of Berar's territories are thus threatened on the north west frontier his dominions towards the south east quarter are not in a state of perfect tranquillity. The Zamindar of Bustar has lately gained an advantage over the troops sent to coerce him and reinforcements are required to reduce the insurgents. The Garrison of Sambalpur (a Fort which was last year taken from a tributary Zamindar by the Raja's forces) mutinied some time since on account of arrears of pay that are withheld from them. The rest of the troops which had been employed on the same service mutinied for the same cause. This mutiny was quelled by a compromise of the arrears but that part of the forces which remained in garrison at Sambalpur has refused to abide by the compromise and according to the latest intelligence I have received still retained possession of the fort in contempt of the Raja's authority.

3 These circumstances though comparatively trivial, contribute to distract the attention of the Government and divert it from matters less urgent yet apparently of great importance. The mission of confidential agents to Poona has not yet taken place nor is any certain time fixed for it and an obscure rumour prevails which does not however seem entitled to belief, that they or else the Raja of Berar in person will meet Dowlat Rao Sindia in Khandesh.

Letter No. 7—The letter conveys information about the victory of the British troops over the Holkar, and about the movements of the Pindari leaders.

FROM—M^r S ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR,

TO—COLONEL HALIBURTON

Camp Dewalgaon, the 2nd January 1804

I have had the honour to receive your letter of the 17th and am very happy to find so far advanced

You will before this have received accounts of the brilliant and decisive victories obtained over Jeshwant Rao Holkar which have reduced him to the condition of a common robber. The impression made by those achievements will in all probability be fatal to any plan of general confederacy which may have been formed and accordingly the Raja of Berar appears sincerely disposed to lay aside his treacherous designs. His army is now north of the Tarra Ghat a pass situated to the east of Mattoy. It is about to break into two divisions which are to move on Sindora and Chaparra, the places which I have pointed out part of the Raja's infantry and guns are here. He has discharged number of his new levies and has given many public marks of repentance and submission whether he is sincere or not. I think it to be certain that your approach to the frontier will effectually deter his attack on Berar and will induce him to submit to such terms as his Excellency the Most Noble Governor-General may think proper to dictate in consequence of the late attack on that province, but if he persists in his aggressions I should apprehend no difficulty in repelling and punishing them. I have reason to think the force I assigned to his army in a former letter exceeds its true strength. His troops appear the most contemptible in India and are commanded by Sakha Ram Bukshee the officer who was reported by Captain Baynes in course of the last war. Even if a confederacy does exist, I should not think from the late movement of Sindia and Meer Khan that they intended to co-operate in an attack on the Nizam's dominions. Sindia is said to have crossed the Nurbudda at the Khyre Paunoo Ghat and Meer Khan is at a position to the northward of Saugor. It is generally believed that he will move towards Hindusthan as soon as he has received his army, which was extremely reduced in course of the siege of Bilsa. Raja Gangaram, informs me that the Pindaries whom he represents to be at Mahaisdy have returned from that position. I believe the whole body of them are on the Nurbudda to the east of Hoshangabad.

The troops who lately invaded Berar near Nachengaoon have been recalled into this country and have marched along the frontier to Amnere from which place they crossed into the Sundry hills and were last heard of between Itatool and Mattoy. The Raja states that he has cavalry pursuing them who are endeavouring to overtake and destroy them but it is probable he will content himself with driving them across the Nerhudda. I shall send you all the intelligence I receive about the Mahratta armies from which you will be able to determine on your motions. I shall be happy to learn how far you think you can advance without incurring the disadvantages stated in your letter. If you will not be exposed to them at Amroty, I should not imagine that it will be requisite for you to march beyond that place till I shall have received the order of His Excellency the Most Noble Governor General or of General Wellesley unless the Raja's troops should make another incursion into Berar in which case it would be necessary to repel them and if possible to destroy them. I do not however expect that any such incursions will take place. Raja Maheeput Ram has written me that he wishes to retaliate for the damage done by the Raja's troops on his pergunnahs in Berar should he make similar proposals to you. I beg leave to recommend your entirely discouraging them unless you are authorised by His Excellency the Governor General or by General Wellesley to make reprisals. Till such authority is received you will no doubt deem it necessary to consider the Raja of Berar as a power at peace with the British Government. I expect to be honoured with instructions on the present conjunction before the middle of next month when I receive them I shall immediately communicate such parts of them as it will be useful you to know.

Letter No 8—The letter informs Colonel Close about the strength and activities of Pindaris

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

TO—COLONEL CLOSE RESIDENT AT POONA

Written on the 24th January 1805

I had this day the honour to receive your dispatches of the 18th and 19th instant

I am very happy to learn that you intend taking the route of Nagpoor in your way to Sindia's Camp and that Chief was on the 7th instant at Sagar and the best way in all respects to that place from Camp appears to me to be by this city

The only Pindaries in the Raja's country are I believe near Hoshangabad where there are two heavy bodies of them. You would avoid them by adopting the easterly road by Dongertal and Chaparra but as it appears from Mr Jenkins letter that there are 15 000 Pindaries with Sindia who plunder round his Camp and are under no caution I should apprehend that it would be highly dangerous for you to join him without three companies of Sepoys and a brigade of guns with that force I should imagine you could reach Sindia's Camp for though I am not certain where Meer Khan is himself I do believe he has no troops between Sagar and Nagpoor

It may be proper to mention that the Pindaries who invaded this country are not universally believed to have belonged in great part if not entirely to Dowlat Rao Sindia. The army which attacked the Raja's possession in Gurry Mundela was certainly Holkar's and commanded by Nagoo Jewajee with a view to giving you the information for which you expressed a wish and to having the advantage of your opinion on different points. I intend in case you should not come by this road to meet you at Colonel Haliburton's Camp. If you should be desirous of being as little detained as possible, I beg you to lay a horse dawk for me from the Wurda and I will be able to join you in one or two days from the time, I receive your answer.

Letter No 9.—This document describes the precautionary measures taken to forestall the probable attack of Bhonsla's and Nizam's territories by Holkar and Sindhia

FROM—B CLOSE, RESIDENT AT POONA,

TO—M ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

Camp at Jaumnar, 16th June 1805

I have the honour to acquaint you that on the 14th instant I joined the detachment of the Hyderabad Subsidiary Force under Colonel Haliburton, and assumed the command of the advanced corps which agreeably to the orders of His Excellency the Governor-General is to be cantoned during the approaching monsoon in the vicinity of Malkapore.

The detachment now under my immediate orders, consists of 2 Regiments of Cavalry, one European Regiment, 6 Battalions of Native Infantry and suitable proportion of Artillery, and Gun Lascars, with a Battering Train, also of His Highness the Nizam's Contingent, and His Highness the Paishwa's troops under the Vinchoor Jagheerदार.

I intend tomorrow with the British Troops to take up my final position for the rains, at favourable spot on the Bagar River, situated about 30 miles to W S W of Malkapore.

The Nizam's troops I shall station in the neighbourhood of Akola from whence they will be enabled to guard the entrance into Berar by the Nernalla Ghaut, and in a few days to reach the Ellichpoor district should it be threatened. The Paishwa's troops, I shall place at Umulneera on the Boree River from whence they will command the Fords of the Tapti leading from the Scindwah Ghaut, and will cover Khandesh.

I have been instructed to correspond with you, and as it is to be my aim with the force under my command to protect Berar and Caundeish, I shall be happy to receive from you any intelligence which may reach you, and which may relate to the security of those provinces. I shall also be obliged by your communicating to me any information of the movements of Sindia and Holkar, which you may think it proper to convey to me.

Letter No 10 —The extract reveals the information that the Pindaris 13 000 strong had advanced up to the Nerhudda and that a part had crossed the river

EXTRACT OF A DISPATCH FROM M S ELPHINSTONE TO HIS
MAGISTRACY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL DATED THE
17TH JUNE 1805

I was yesterday visited by Yeswant Rao who came to inform me that 13 000 Pindaries advanced to the Nerhudda that part had crossed the river and the rest were about to follow. Intending to penetrate through this country into Berar I expressed my doubt that they could harbour such an intention at this season but recommended that the Raja should be on his guard. Yeswant Rao then informed me that the Raja had recalled his army from the frontiers of Bundellund that it might protect Gurry Mundela and that he should send part of the troops on the Kanlian (the whole amounts to 10 000) to Panna part to Chouragur and keep part at Nagpore

Letter No 11 —Col Wallace describes what Military dispositions he had ordered in view of the rumour that Pindaris nearly 6,000 strong under four chiefs named Heeroo Sectoo (Chiloo) Berrun and Nago had assembled to invade Berar

FROM—COL ONEL WALLACE

TO—COL ONEL CLOSE

Camp at Faltepur 22nd June 1805

On the 16th instant I had the honour to communicate to you my general intentions regarding the disposition for the rains of the advanced detachment under my command and have now in continuation of that subject to acquaint you, that on the 17th instant I moved to this ground with the whole of the British and Nizam's Troops and finding it a very favourable spot for encamping on during the Monsoon I have fixed the Headquarters of our own troops for the present here

This position is the same as alluded to in my letter of the 16th instant and is situated 14 miles N E of the adjuttee Ghaut and 30 W S W of Malkapore

Having received intelligence from Mr Elphinstone at Nagpore and from other quarters that a body of Pindaries amounting it is said to 6 000 under four Chiefs named Heeroo Sectoo Berrun and Nago is assembled in the neighbourhood of Hoshangabad and meditates an incursion (indistinct) that it would be proper to cover by a detachment of the Nizam's Troops the rich and fertile districts of Ellichpore and Amraoti and particularly the excellent town of the latter name which being secured by no fortification, and at present protected by no considerable number of troops must offer to plunderers of this description an alluring prize I have therefore desired 1 500 of the Nizam's Circar Horse and 500 of his Infantry with guns to march immediately for Amarawaty and hope that they will proceed from hence to that destination the day after tomorrow. This party with the troops already in the vicinity of Ellichpore which I am informed amounts to about 1,500 will I trust be sufficient to repel any attempts which may be made on these provinces by the Pindaries before mentioned or any other freebooters

The remainder of His Highness's the Nizam's contingent I have requested may be stationed in the neighbourhood of Akola wherever suitable encamping ground can be found and they should be kept collected, and in a constant state of preparation to move. I shall beg of the Chiefs Commanding it, to consider the protection of Berar as their principal object and to this to watch the passes leading through the Narnalla range of Hills and the eastern road from Houssingabad into the Deccan, also to endeavour to procure and communicate to me the earliest information possible of the movement of any body of troops towards its frontier which could endanger its security.

The Vinchoor Jagheerdar with His Highness the Paishwa's troops, has I am informed moved from Sonegheer in this direction but he has not himself apprized me of his march. I have written to him desiring him to take up a position near Umulneera on the Boree River to keep his troops in constant readiness to move to consider the protection of Candesh as his particular care to watch the passes leading from the northward into Candesh, and the Fords of the Taptie on all the high roads, to render safe (indistinct) and to endeavour (indistinct) and transmit to me the most accurate intelligence possible of any movements of troops to the Northward, also to keep me informed of the state of things at Sindia.

This distribution of the advanced force I have thought most likely effectually to cover Candesh and Berar. Our own troops will command the road by Burhanpore from Hindoostan to the Deccan, those of the Nizam that by the Narnalla, and other passes in that vicinity, and those of the Paishwa's that by the Sindiah and western Ghauts. Each of the three detachments will be sufficiently strong to repel any attempts made by plunderers or small bodies on that part of the frontier near to them, and if necessary the whole force (with exception of the few detached to Amarawutty) can in six or seven days be collected at one point the distance from Camp to Akola and Umulneera not exceeding 10 miles.

The Sirdars of the Nizam's Contingent (indistinct) wished to be permitted to go further (indistinct) but as they would by doing so mostly (indistinct) into their own Jagheer, I feared to (indistinct), for it is I believe in general found difficult to withdraw them, when necessary from their own possessions, and if they be (indistinct) I may rely on their self-interest as a strong spur to their exertions in repairing to their relief.

Mr Elphinstone's late dispatch to His Excellency the Most Noble the Governor-General respecting the Pindaries assembled near Houssangabad, contains every information on this head which I possess, which however has been communicated to me from several quarters. Asseerghur is represented to be strongly garrisoned and it is said that a brother of the Killedar's is encamped in the country below it with about 2,000 men. At Sindia it is reported that there is about 500 Infantry and 50 horse.

The enclosed letter to your address from Captain Winfield at Jalna contains a report of a force being collected at Mahishwar on the Nurbudda, this rumour I have heard from other directions and have taken every steps to investigate (indistinct). Captain Winfield's letter I took (indistinct) of opening not . . . (indistinct) lately heard from that quarter.

All Native reports agree in Sindia's and Holkar's being encamped about 30 days ago between Kotah and Boondy, and that their armies are in the greatest want of money, forage and grain.

Letter No 12 —Colonel Wallace reports the arrival of a large body of Pindaris in the vicinity of Asirgarh. A part of them had crossed the Poorna at a place opposite of Edlbad and had not raided the neighbouring country but had carried away some cattle belonging the Nizam's troops and to his (Colonel Wallace's) Camp

FROM—COL WALLACE

TO—COMMISSIONER RESIDENT AT POONA

Camp at Laltepur 17th October 1805

Three or four days ago I received certain Intelligence of the arrival of a large body of Pindaries in the vicinity of Asseergur and of some parties detached from it having crossed the Tapti and Poornah Rivers and committed depredations in the territories of their Highnesses the Nizam and Paishwa but delayed communicating to you this circumstance in order that I might have time to acquire more certain information respecting these plunderers

I have now the honour to acquaint you that about 6000 Pindaries of the body commanded by Seetoo which by the last accounts I have received was at Hindin on the Nerbudda arrived on the 8th or 9th instant at a river three coss north of Asseergur, where four days ago the greater part still remained encamped. A party however of 200 of them advanced on the 12th instant to the north bank of the Poornah opposite to Edlbad from whence they made plundering excursions and succeeded in carrying off some cattle belonging to His Highness the Nizam's troops which were grazing about 3 miles from hence, and on the 14th instant in driving off from within two or three miles of the Camp some bullocks and camels belonging to my detachment wounding a sepoy and some followers

It is also reported by my Hurcarrah that another party of three thousand men moved from the Camp near Asseergur and proceeded in a direct line for Peepalghur in Berar which lies between Balapoor and Malkapore

From all intelligence I have received it is likely that these Pindaries will in a short time be joined by Seetoo himself with the remainder of his force and perhaps by some of the body under Karim Khan now near Bhopal and that it is their intention to enter the territories of Nizam and Paishwa

In consequence of these circumstances I have issued orders to all the detached parties of the Nizam's and Paishwa's Contingents to be upon the alert and to attack the Pindaries whenever they may meet with them within their own territories but not for that purpose to enter Sindiah's dominions

I have also endeavoured to prevent the Pindaries from penetrating into this country by the route leading by Burhanpore by posting at Nusseerabad which lies on the high road from thence to Khandesh a strong party of the Paishwa's Horse and at Bodeer and Malkapore detachments of the Nizam's Horse and propose to move forward myself to the edge of the frontier with the British Troops in order the better to protect the frontier and to cover my line of supply with Jalna should that hereafter become necessary

I have not yet learnt the names of the principal Sirdars with the Pindaries who have arrived at Asseergur. It is generally rumoured that Sergy Rao Gautka has instigated them to make an eruption into these provinces

I take this opportunity of acknowledging the receipt of your letter of the 11th instant

Letter No 13.—Reports the irruption of the Pindaris into Berar and their plunder of certain localities a few miles away from Nagpur.

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR,
TO—THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL

Nagpur, the 17th November 1805

I have had the honour to inform you in my dispatch No 1 that the Pindaries were collected near Mahaisdee that their plan was supposed to be to attack either Nagpur or Amraoti

I yesterday forenoon received a Persian letter from Amraoti acquainting me that on the 13th instant a large body of Pindaries had attacked that city but that they had been repulsed by the troops stationed there. They had done no damage to the town except burning a few houses in the suburbs and the Nizams troops lost only about 20 men killed and wounded. The Pindaries however were still in the villages round Amraoti. I also received a letter from Ellichpore stating that 8 or 10,000 Pindaries had surprised and plundered Dewalwaira on the night of the 12th and were beginning on the 13th to appear about Ellichpore. The same post brought a note from Bisnoor on the Wardha which said that a party of 500 Pindaries had appeared in that quarter and carried off some treasure belonging to a banker which was at Salbarry on the way to Amraoti. I immediately transmitted the above intelligence to the Raja. Towards evening some parties belonging to detachment of 250 or 300 of the Raja's horse which was stationed at Bazar Gaon came in retreating before a party of Pindaries who had arrived at that village. Those men gave very exaggerated accounts of the force of those freebooters but there is no reason to think they exceeded 3 or 400 and many accounts make their numbers much less considerable. As Bazargaon is only 18 miles from Nagpur and as there was no force assembled either here or on the road a great alarm prevailed in the city. Small parties of troops were however moving out all night in the direction of the Pindaries and collected to the numbers of about 1,000 near the Residency. They have since proceeded towards Bazargaon. No very distinct accounts of the proceedings of the Pindaries can yet be obtained. By intelligence I yesterday received from Baitul it appeared that 10,000 Pindaries passed to the west of that place plundering the country. As they went six days ago, the Raja has intelligence of their passing through his Pergunnahs of Sautnare and Autnare considerably to the east of Gawilghur and entered Berar at Karanja, north east of Ellichpore. Those are said to be the Derras parties, belonging to Heroo and Kereem. Sectoo is said still to be near Shawpore. I can obtain no information of the route adopted by those who have entered this country. I have heard of a body of 500 at Nandgaon who are represented by letters from Vishnoor to have plundered that banker together with the villages of Tewsa, Mohammedpur, Tumbulpore, Doupoor and some others and also of a party of 1,000 who plundered Tonnygoan and Coondalla and were endeavouring to take the Gurry at the latter place. I imagine their number is exaggerated. Those who were at Bazargaon appear to have come from Coondalla. They skirmished with the Raja's horse at that place wounded a few of them and drove them in on Nagpore after which they carried off an Elephant, some camels and some horses and advancing about 3 coss on this side of Bazargaon turned off to the north and disappeared among the hills.

The main body appears to be still in Berar. Salabat Khan had marched from Ellichpore in pursuit of it on the 13th and it is to be hoped it will not be able to do any serious mischief in the Nizam's country. Preparations are still going on here and it is reported that the Raja has ordered in his army from Chupperra. There are troops enough now in Nagpore to defend it from any attack of the Pindaris but the Raja (either relying on the treaties which he concluded with those freebooters or unwilling to make the necessary advances of pay) has not hitherto formed any encampment but allowed his troops to remain scattered about the town in such a manner that they could scarcely be assembled in less than a week but as he seems now to be thoroughly alarmed he will probably lose no time in taking measures to protect his capital from plunder particularly as it may be expected that the Derras now in Berar will retire by this route.

At a visit which I received from Jeswant Rao since I last did myself the honour to write you he acquainted me that Govind Rao had quitted Holkar with his party and was trying to get into Sindia's service and that Nana Sahib would probably set off for Nagpur in a few days. He then showed much anxiety to know when your plans in the Raja's favour would take effect to which I replied that Lord Cornwallis had mentioned in his letter to the Raja that negotiations were commenced with a view to them and that I knew nothing more from which it could be guessed when the arrangement would be concluded. I put him also in mind that Nana Sahib's conduct was not yet free from suspicion. Jeswant Rao promised that all doubts on that subject would soon be removed and asked whether any negotiation was necessary except a letter to the Nizam. I said I had no orders to acquaint him with the negotiations that were on foot but that I could tell him that I knew nothing of any letter to the Nizam from the above it would appear that the Raja is so unreasonable as to look for the restoration of Berar but it is possible this may be affected in hope that you will proportion your liberality to his expectation.

Letter No 14—Reports further details about the Pindaris and their depredations in Berar

FROM—COLONEL WALLACE

TO—COLONEL CLOSE RESIDENT AT POONA

Camp at Goregaon near Akola 18th November 1805

Since indisposition has prevented me from sooner communicating to you that a body of Pindaris said to consist of about 5000 horse and 2000 infantry entered Burrer on the 13th instant by penetrating the Gawli ghur range of Hills 30 miles of Ellichpore and on the evening of that day appeared at Amraoti and early next morning commenced an attack on that city with the intention of plundering but fortunately was successfully opposed by 2000 of the Nizam's Corps stationed there and obliged to retire after having suffered a considerable loss. The approach of Nabab Salabat Khan and his corps of 4000 men who appear to have marched from Ellichpore on the very first alarm induced the Pindaris wholly to relinquish their enterprize at Amraoti and to go off in an easterly direction across the Wardha.

I am happy to have it in my power to say that as little injury as could possibly be expected has been sustained at Amraoti and the country around it from the incursion of these freebooters. I have only heard of two houses detached from the rest of the Pettah having been burnt and of the fields

and small villages lying on the road the Pindaries took, having been practically plundered, which is an evil which must attend the movement of any irregular body

Immediately on receiving the first intelligence of the arrival in Berar of so considerable a number of Pindaries, I ordered on to Amraoti the Nizam's Troops (about 3,000) which were in this Camp, and equipped a light corps consisting of the 1st and 3rd Regiments of cavalry supported by 900 picked Native Infantry with two six-pounders and a detail of Artillery and Pioneers. The Nizam's troops moved from hence on the 16th instant and will reach Amraoti today, the British light Corps commanded by Lieut-Colonel Doveton moved on the 17th and will also reach rapidly to Amraoti. Lieut-Colonel Doveton's arrival and stay in that vicinity, will I hope prevent the return into Berar of the Pindaries, should this however not be the case I have instructed him in conjunction with the Nizam's Troops which has been collected for this service, and which amounts at least to 9,000 men to act against these freebooters in the manner which may appear to him best suited in the first instance, to protect the territories of our allies from the depredations and in the next to drive them beyond the frontier. The Nizam's troops, I have placed under his orders.

Some Pindaries taken prisoners in the fray at Amraoti state that they belong to Sectoo's party and marched day and night since the 6th instant in hopes of surprising and plundering that town, but I have not yet distinctly heard from whence they came and who are their chiefs.

Seventeen men of the Nizam's troops stationed at Amraoti were killed and 28 wounded.

I have desired Lieut-Colonel Doveton in the course of the service in which he has entered not to pass the frontier of the Raja of Nagpore or Sindia's territories.

Letter No 15 —Intimates that the British and Nizam's troops could enter the country to the east of the Wardha and even come to Nagpur. He further intimates to him the request of the Sindhia as to how the Pindaris should be destroyed. The depredations of the Pindaris round about Nagpur are also alluded to.

FROM—M^r ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR,
TO—COLONEL WALLACE

Nagpur, the 22nd November 1805

I have had the honour to receive your letter enclosing one which you addressed to Colonel Close, on the subject of the irruption of the Pindaries into Berar.

I observe by the last part of that dispatch that you have directed Lieutenant-Colonel Doveton not to pass the Raja of Berar's frontier. This order was indispensable as His Highness's permission to enter his country had not been obtained but it appears to me that the Nizam's country cannot be considered, as safe, while the Pindaries are near the frontier, and that you might find it advantageous to have it in your power both to attack the Pindaries when they are preparing for an incursion, and to pursue them in their retreat. I therefore informed the Raja of the orders you had issued and begged to be informed whether it would be agreeable to him if the British Troops were to pass his frontier in pursuit of the Pindaries. I have just received His Highness's answer through Jeswant Rao, who informed me that the Raja was so far from having any objection to our troops entering his country, that he would be very glad to see them at Nagpore. I stated to Jeswant Rao (as I had before done in my message to the Raja) that your particular attention would be directed to the defence of Berar,

and that you might not wish to come far beyond the frontier or even to cross it but that I was anxious that you should have it in your power to do so if you thought it advisable. Jeswant Rao then remarked that the families of the Pindaries who were now in Berar and this country were all lodged in Hindustan and that if that place were taken it would go right to occasion the entire dispersion of the party that Sindia had sent orders to his officers at Shewny near Hooslungahad to employ three thousand men that are under his authority on this service, they would soon be reinforced by near 5000 men under the command of Juggabirpoo who had arrived at Shahjehanpore with the same view that Sindia had applied to the Raja to co operate with him in rooting out these plunderers by stopping the Ghants through which they might escape and that if the British or the Nizam were to assist in confining them to the hilly country north of Berar they could not fail to be soon destroyed. I said I would inform you of the plan but could not tell whether you would adopt it as your object was to protect the Nizam's country. I do not consider this attack on the Raja though by a common enemy to be of such a nature as to call on me to offer the assistance of the British Troops under the authority conveyed to me in the late Governor General's instructions of which I had the honour to send you a copy. The extent to which you should carry your operations into this country will therefore entirely depend on the advantage you expect to derive from them in military point of view. Had I not been requested to do so by Jeswant Rao it would be unnecessary for me to point out the necessity of preventing any damage being occasioned by the Nizam's troops to the parts of the Raja's country into which your operations may be carried considering the terms on which the Raja and Salabut Khan are. It might be advisable not to detach the latter Chief into this country unless it was necessary for the purpose above referred to.

I shall do myself the honour of sending a copy of this letter to Colonel Doveton

P S—By the last certain accounts there was a strong party of the Pindaris at Tullygong Dusspassra who are now reported to be at Rallygong they sent parties up to Waghholly a village about 30 miles from this, which they entirely destroyed and some of them advanced to Kuhl 15 miles from Nagpur. The greatest alarm prevails in consequence and an army is forming but very slowly to the southward of Nagpur for the protection of the city

Letter No 16—Conveys further reports about the depredations of the Pindaris round about Nagpur

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

TO—LIEUT COLONEL DOVETON

Nagpur 23rd November 1805

I have had the honour to receive your letter of the 21st and I beg leave to assure you that I shall be careful to make you acquainted with all the movements of the Pindaris of which I received intelligence. They appear to be dispersed over all the country on the left bank of the Wardha. There was a heavy body of them at Carrinja on the night before last and parties had appeared at Tanaygong and Coondallee and also at some villages near Amnere. On the same night the village of Waghholly 30 miles from Nagpur in a southerly direction was plundered and many parties of them were scattered all over that part of the country. It was reported that some Pindaris had attacked Vainecotta and Rallygoag but I do not know with what truth. The Raja of Berar's intelligence states the main body to be at Tallygoog Dusspassra and to design an attack in this city but it is more probable they will pass up to the hills between Nagpur and Wardha.

Letter No 17.—Elphinstone reports the incursions of 5,000 Pindaris into the country between Pandhurna and Amner and the dispositions of the Bhonsla's troops to expel them. He requests Colonel Wallace to enter Bhonsla's territory to chase the Pindaris out of the country

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR,

TO—COLONEL WALLACE

Nagpur, the 24th November 1805

You will have heard before this reaches you, that the Pindaris who have been laying waste this country, and the Nizam's have retired with their plunder into the hills by the route of Carrinja, Nurcare, and the Saulburdh Ghaut. I have just been informed by Jeswant Rao that the Raja has intelligence of the arrival of 5,000 more Pindaris at a village about 3 miles north of Nurcare, these were not on the last incursion, but are ready to make an inroad wherever they see the country unprotected. Nurcare is in the hills between Pandoorna and Amner. The Raja has made the following arrangements, which he wishes you to be informed of as from them, you will have a guess at the roads, by which the Pindaris may enter. The army now at Chaparra consisting of about 2,000 horse, 1,000 or 1,500 foot and 6 guns, is to be stationed somewhere near Katol about 9 coss south-east of Amner. The troops assembling here, which already amount to about 1,000 and are daily increasing are to be stationed near Kondhaly or Tallygong, where they are to be joined by about 1,500 horse and foot with 5 guns, who are now near Canoaly Barry, south of Nagpur, a pretty strong corps will remain at Pandoorna. The Raja has again expressed his desire that you should make no scruple of entering his country whenever you please, and suggests the expediency of sending some troops into the hills north of Berar, to drive the Pindaris across the Nerbudda. He says Salabat Khan would probably be desirous of doing this as his Jagheer is close under the hills, and that he has no objection to Salabat-Khan's being sent anywhere in this country, that if necessary or even convenient for destroying the Pindaris. I have told him that though our Government is very desirous to assist him yet your plans will probably go no farther than is necessary to secure Berar. Jeswant Rao has promised me notes of the hill roads, etc, for your use. It certainly appears desirable to keep the Pindaris far off the frontier particularly at this time when Sindia's troops will press them to the northward and force them down on Berar, but many things must be considered in executing the scheme, about which I cannot judge all that I mean to say is that your pursuing the Pindaris in the hills, will be entirely agreeable to this Government.

Letter No. 18 —Doveton reports that he had occupied a position on the Wardha river ready to strike the Pindaris and oppose them from re-entering the Nizam's or Bhonsla's dominions.

FROM—LT -COLONEL DOVETON,

TO—M ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

Camp between Rajahen Arry and Dappory in the Pergunna of Ashti,

25th November 1805

I have been honoured with your communication of the 21st instant enclosing copy of a letter addressed to Colonel Wallace, under date the (?) and from its contents, should not hesitate an instant in entering His Highness the Nagpur Raja's dominions with the force under my command, for the expulsion of the Pindaris, notwithstanding I have not as yet received Colonel Wallace's instructions to that effect even not positively

certain from the last information I can collect that they have already quit-
ted them and proceeded in the direction of Moultai, with the intention
of crossing the Nerbudda into their own country. I am at present en-
camped between Dahpoory and Rajah Arry, 2 coss from the Wardha river
and on the direct road to Illwarkheda when my present intention is to
(indistinct) the most advantageous situation for opposing the re-
entrance of the Pindaris into His Highness the Nizam's dominions or
those of the Raja of Nagpur. I shall hope for the honour of hearing fre-
quently from you on this subject and remain

Letter No. 19—Col Wallace reports the widespread movements of the
Pindaris and his own efforts to check their activities

FROM—COLONEL WALLACE

TO—MR. ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

Camp at Akola the 26th November 1805

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the
22nd instant

I am happy that you have procured the consent of the Raja of
Nagpur for the British and Moghul Troops to cross his frontier in order
to act against the Pindaries. On this very subject I lately had the honour
of addressing you. The enclosed is a copy of instructions which in con-
sequence of your communications I yesterday sent to Lieut Colonel Dove-
ton by them you will perceive that I have not thought it could be of
much advantage in a general military point of view to pursue these plu-
nders far into the Raja's territory and that I have therefore confined
the operations of his detachment beyond the frontier to that extent only
which will add to the security of the frontiers of the Nizam and Paishwah

The Pindaries move so rapidly and are generally dispersed in small
bodies over so extensive a tract that I fear they cannot be pursued with
much effect and as the party which has entered Berar and the Nagpur
territory is but a very small portion of the number of these freebooters
who are now collected at Hindia and Shualpoor and who may also make
an incursion into these provinces the protection of which is the first object
of my attention I did not think that it would be advisable to detach any
of the troops under my command far beyond the frontier of the Nizam's
or Paishwa's territories considering the extent of that front unless you
should think it proper to afford to the Nagpur State the assistance of a
part of my force when I trust that Lieut Colonel Doveton's present
detachment reinforced by about 4 000 of the Subah of the Deccan's Horse
and 1 500 of his Infantry could be employed on that service and be with-
drawn from Berar without materially affecting its security

The plan proposed to you by Jeswant Rao for rooting out the Pindaries
I shall of course be enabled to co-operate in as far as preventing the Pin-
daries from escaping by the Ghauts leading into Berar and shall do my
utmost to prevent any penetrating south by those routes

On the 22nd instant Lieut Colonel Doveton made a march from
Amraoti towards Tewrah where he intended with the British detachment
and about 1 000 of the Nizam's Horse to remain Appah (Raja Mahipat
Ram's Agent) with 3 000 Horse 1 500 Infantry and 7 Guns he had detached
to take up a position at Bawteoly which is 18 coss from Amraoti and 9
from the Wardha Salabat Khan he had stationed at Woorgaum which
lays about half way between Ellichpoor and Amraoti and at the latter
place he had left Golam Hyder Khan with 1 500 Infantry 1 000 Horse and

several Guns. By this disposition of his force he hoped to prevent the return through Berar of the Pindaries who lately quitted it, and to secure the large towns from the attempts of any party of this enemy which might unexpectedly penetrate beyond his own, and Appah's detachments

A follower of the Pindaries who was taken at Amraoti and whom with some others I sent for the questions, gives the following account

That the party which lately entered Berar belongs to Scetoo and consists of 3,000 Pindaries and 2,000 Footmen, who follow them for the sake of plunder, that it marched from the vicinity of Hindia and arrived in six days in Berar having come all the way through a very wild and hilly country and that it plundered one village in Berar (of which he does not know the name) before its arrival at Amraoti. He states that Scetoo did not accompany this party and that he is now near Hindia with the remainder of his force amounting to about 15,000 men and that his not being able to pay his troops was the cause of a fast coming south to subsist themselves by plunder. He knows of no other bodies of these freebooters having quitted their own Jagheers on the Nerbudda, and says that none of Heeroo or Karcem Khan's Pindaries are now out on plundering excursions

P S—I have this moment received from Lieut-Colonel Doveton a report that two more bodies of Pindaries have entered Berar near to Amnair, and had surrounded the village of Nuverkair. In consequence of this intelligence he intended moving north from Condapore where he was on the 24th instant. This information reached him from Amraoti

Extract of a letter from Captain Agnew, Deputy Adjutant General, to
Lieut Colonel Doveton

Camp near Akola, the 25th November 1805

Colonel Wallace has today received a letter from Mr Elphinstone, dated 22nd instant, a copy of which he says he has sent to you, by which it appears that the Raja of Nagpore has no objections to the British and Moghul Troops entering his territory in order to act against the Pindaries, and that he is even solicitous to profit by the security to his own possessions which that measure would afford. Colonel Wallace, therefore, desires that you will no longer hesitate in crossing the frontier of the Nagpore Territories whenever your doing so will tend to the further protection of the Nizam's and Peshwa's possessions, and will enable you to act with more effect against the Pindaries, being particular, however, when you have occasion to enter them in paying the most liberal attention to the interest of that State, and in doing it every service in your power not inconsistent with the primary object of protecting Berar, which must be always kept in view

From the circumstance of the Raja of Berar and Salabat Khan being at present not on good terms, it is wished that the latter should not be detached across the frontier and as you will probably think it adviseable should you quit Berar yourself to keep a corps in it sufficient to oppose any body of Pindaries that might from the rapidity of the movements of these freebooters unexpectedly arrive, Salabat Khan with his quota will be well suited to the performance of this service

Colonel Wallace begs to you to prevent as far as possible the British and Nizam's troops from doing injury to such parts of the Bhonsla's territory as they may eventually pass through

I have had the honour to receive your letter of the 21st and 22nd instant. Colonel Wallace wholly approves of the disposition you therein proposed to make of the troops under your command, which however from

the present communication you will probably be induced in some respects to alter, as you will now be enabled to drive to a distance from the frontier of the Nizam's country all parties of the Pindaries which may threaten it

I transmit to you the copy of a part of Mr Elphinstone's letter before alluded to containing the latest information he possesses of the Pindaries, in case you may not have received the original. Colonel Wallace has lately received no intelligence of these freebooters which would be of use to you

During the service you are now employed on Colonel Wallace requests that you will attend to all suggestions you may receive from Mr Elphinstone the Resident at Nagpur with whom it will also be of advantage were you to open a correspondence.

A true extract

Letter No. 20 —Dovelon reports that he had taken post at Putlipore on the Wardha river for opposing further advance of the Pindaris

FROM—COLONEL DOVETON

TO—MR ELPHINSTONE RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

Camp between Dhapoor and Rajewary, the 27th November 1805

I have just been honoured with a copy of your communication to Colonel Wallace under date the 24th instant and shall in consequence march this morning and take post at Putlipore on the banks of the Wardha which is from which I can learn the best position for opposing the further advance of these marauders

Letter No. 21 —Reports his movements and encloses information about the irruptions of a fresh body of Pindaris 12—15 000 strong which had advanced to the banks of the Kanhan river—12 miles from Multai

FROM—COLONEL DOVETON

TO—MR ELPHINSTONE RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

The 1st December 1805

I enclose you the bits of intelligence which I have just received from hircarra whom I dispatched some days since for that purpose. I shall continue my march to cross the river at this place. At the same time directing Appah Sahib who is advancing by Ashtee to take post where I now am

It is necessary I should make known to you at the same time that I have this day sent back a detachment to Aniraoti to bring supplies that have been sent for us from Colonel Wallace's Camp and without which I cannot go. I hope however that an advance will effectively prevent the Pindaris from carrying into execution any of their projected plans.

I shall hope to be favoured with a communication from you in answer to this

Heads of intelligence received 1st December 1805 8 p m

Two of my hircarrahs have just arrived that I sent for intelligence and say that they went as far as the town of Multai which is in the dominions of the Raja of Nagpore at which place they learnt that a fresh body of Pindaries amounting by report to 12 or 15 000 had advanced to Kanhan on the banks of the river of the same name 12 coss beyond Multai which they had plundered but their further intentions they could not learn

The hircarrahs say also, that they fell in with, on the road; 2 hircarrahs of the Pindaries, that had been sent for intelligence and had been in Colonel Wallace's Camp, during 3 days. That these fellows were also in the Camp of this detachment and quelled us when we advanced to the Wardha river

Letter No. 22 —Doveton reports information about the movements of the Pindaris and the military disposition he had ordered.

FROM—COLONEL DOVETON,

TO—M ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

Camp Pattipur on River Wardha, the 28th November 1805

I was this morning favoured with yours of the 25th. The party of Pindaries you mention as having attacked Vancotta must be those which formerly entered this country, in their retreat, as from every information I can collect, both on this and the other side of the river, as well as direct from Amnere, I have every reason to suppose there is not one of them in the country at this moment but that they have retired with the intention of recrossing the Nerbuddah River into their own country

I have directed the Nabab Salabat Khan to advance and take up a position at Rair, and Appah is still with his force near Bawtcoly, so that we are so situated as to be able to act against them in whatever quarter they may reappear, should each be thus situated

Letter No. 23 —Doveton informs where he had posted military contingents to forestall the movements of the Pindaris.

FROM—COLONEL DOVETON,

TO—M ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

The 4th December 1805

I have the honour to inform you that I crossed the river this morning at Amnair and am now encamped in such a station as to enable me to move in any direction that may be required either for the defence of his Highness the Raja of Nagpur's territory, or of the Amraoti and Ellichpur districts, with the greatest effect

The intelligence which I gave you concerning the Pindaries, has been confirmed at this place, with the addition of their having retired on hearing of the advance of the detachment

The force under my command is now stationed as followed —Golaum Hyder Khan, with 1,500 Infantry, 1,000 horse and 3 guns at Amraoti

The Nawab Salabat Khan with his division moving in the Amraoti and Ellichpur districts, as his presence may be required

500 Infantry, 500 horse and 2 guns detached by my order from Appah's force, to take part at Amnerkair to bar the entrance of the marauders by that route

It is also necessary I should acquaint you, that treasure to the amount of 36,200 (?) and provisions for the Europeans, etc, left Colonel Wallace's Camp on the 2nd instant under the protection of a Company of Sepoys and I expect they will reach me on or about the 16th instant

Letter No 24 —Elphinstone intimates the movements of the Pindaris and their strength under different leaders. The military dispositions ordered by the Bhonsla are also intimated

FROM—M I I PHINSTONL RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

TO—COLONEL DOVETON

Nagpur, the 7th December 1805

I have the honour to enclose some further notes respecting the passes in the Gawilgur hills

A pair of murras who passed through the Pindarry country about a fortnight ago inform me that Seetoo is at Jelouda near Hindia with a small force that the party who were in Berar are on their return, and that a third party was gone towards Hoshangabad. They guess Seetoo's whole force at 10 000 men

In confirmation of the part of the above intelligence which states a body of Pindaries to have moved east from Jelouda I have received information of some of those freebooters appearing to the north of Deogur (as laid down in Rennell's map). They are as usual represented to be very numerous but I have no means of ascertaining their real strength

The Raja's troops from Chappara amounting to from 3 000 to 4 000 horse and foot with four guns are encamped at Ramtek. A party of nearly the same strength (or less) was marching from Ponnare (when I last heard of it) in a northerly direction and is probably now near Coondally

Jotiba Maunia with the Derras of Heeroo and Burrun Pindaries was when I last heard of him between Soneputch and the Nerbudda moving south. He is said to have 10 000 men and I suppose has really 2 000 or 3 000. It is uncertain what he designs and Seetoo's Pindaries talk of opposing him.

I have received no answer to my application for leave to purchase grain but shall renew it as soon as I can state the quantity required

P.S.—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letters up to the 4th instant and am much obliged to you for the information they contain

Letter No 25 —Intimates the whereabouts of the Pindaris

FROM—COLONEL DOVETON

TO—M ELPHINSTONE RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

Camp at Nair the 13th December 1805

Jeswant Rao Ramchander has just been with me to inform me that the Raja has received a letter from Multai dated December 8th which states the Pindaries under Karcem to have crossed the Nerbudda and to be assembled on Gangajhury west of Hoshangabad amounting with the other Pindaries to 20 000 or 25 000 with guns and infantry. The letter represents their intention to be to penetrate into the province of Berar through the hills near Souligur. The above account is accidentally extremely exaggerated and in my opinion no part of it can be considered as certain except that there are a body of Pindaries at Gangajhury, but in case your other intelligence should lead you to believe this it may be proper to inform

you, that Souligur is a small hill fort about 20 coss from Gawilgur, 12 from Shohagpore (or Shawpore) and 20 from Baitool (or Bhotul) and the Gangajhury, is on this side the Nerbudda at no great distance from Hoshangabad

Letter No. 26.—The letter refers to the dissensions among the Pindari leaders—Cheetoo, Jotiba and Kareem, and the request of Cheetoo to the Bhonsla for assistance. It is not likely that the Bhonsla's troops would be able to check the Pindaris effectively since they are not regularly paid because of which they are "entirely unfit for active service".

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR,

TO—COLONEL DOVETON

Nagpur, the 17th December 1805

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the
. . . (?) instant

I yesterday received a visit from Jeswant Rao, who communicated to me the following particulars. The Raja of Berar has lately received a letter from the Seetoo the Pindary, in which that freebooter states that he is about to be attacked by Jotiba Maunia and Kereem the Pindarry, that he is prepared to resist them, but is apprehensive that he is not strong enough successfully to oppose their united force. He therefore requests the Raja to advance a body of troops for the purpose of assisting him in the defence of these countries. Enclosed in the above, was a letter from Jotiba to Seetoo referring to some former negotiations, and saying that he might have peace on the terms already proposed. It further mentioned that a body of Jotiba's plunderers were about to proceed on a predatory expedition by the Ghaut of Bugallateer, and required Seetoo to afford them a free passage. Jeswant Rao states Jotiba to be in Sindia's service and the person who used to be at the head of the Pindaries while they were attached to that Prince, and that the demand referred to in his letter is that Seetoo will evacuate such of Sindia's district as he has occupied without leave, retaining only his Jageer of Jelouda, etc. In case of Seetoo's agreeing to these terms, Jeswant Rao says that the two parties will join in plundering this country and Berar. He represents Seetoo as reluctant to restore the countries immediately, as he has laid out money on them, but willing to give them up at the end of the year. He informs me that the two armies are near one another in the neighbourhood of Gangajhery, which he describes at south-west of Hoshangabad, and also that Juggaba Baupoo is to the south-west of Ougein and certainly on his way to the Nerbudda. He says the Raja is far from having any confidence in the appearance of dissension among the Pindaries, and that he has information on very good authority, that a considerable of them is at present on a plundering expedition, though he does not know where, that His Highness is therefore exerting himself as much as ever to be prepared for another incursion. He has ordered from 1,500 to 2,000 foot to be entertained at Souligur, for the purpose of defending the passes near that place, that he has ordered the Killadar to proceed thither, and to wait on you as he passes, for the purpose of giving you information regarding the defiles in the hills and to leave an inferior officer for the same purpose with you, when he proceeds on his journey and finally that the Raja had ordered Venkat Rao Pontouny who commands his troops at Pandoorna, to transmit you any information he may obtain of the movements of the Pindaries, and would be very much

obliged to you if you would perform the same good office towards Venkat Rao. It appears to me that your complying with this request would be of mutual advantage, but I must add that I fear there is no prospect of the Pindaries being stopped on their way to Herar by any of the Raja's troops for the weakness of his Government and the irregularity of his payments render them entirely unfit for any active service.

Letter No. 27—The letter refers to the conflicts between the two inimical groups of Pindaris—one led by Chhetoo and the other by Jotiba.

FROM—M. P. PHINSTON, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

TO—COLONEL DOVSTON

Nagpur the 18th December 1805

Since I had the honour of writing to you I have seen the officers whom the Raja is sending to you. They seem perfectly well informed about the hills and gave me the most consistent account of the proceedings of Jotiba and the Pindaries that I have yet received. It is that Jotiba with Dost Mohammed and other Pindaries, is beyond the Nerbudda not far from Newar which is on the Nerbudda opposite Hindia. Seetoo's main force is at Naimbaur but he is himself on this side of the Nerbudda. Hostilities have actually commenced and Seetoo's people have been worsted in two skirmishes. Part of Kerem's Dera have crossed the Nerbudda from Bopaul and are near Hoshangabad at Gungaisurry they also have had some skirmishes with Seetoo's party. None of the Pindaries of either party have yet appeared in the neighbourhood of Souligur but the persons with whom I converse seem to join in the Raja's opinion that whatever may be the issue of the contest among themselves Herar and this country will be invaded either by Seetoo retreating before Jotiba or by the successful party or in the event of an accommodation by both united. At the Raja's request I have sent a Maratta writer in my service with his officers. I did so principally in compliance with His Highness's wishes but you may perhaps find the man useful in helping to draw out such routes as you may require of the Raja's people.

Letter No. 28—Intimates the complete rout and dispersal of a band of Pindaris near Jalgaon by a British contingent under Captain Scott.

FROM—COLONEL WALLACE

TO—COLONEL CLOSE, RESIDENT AT POONA

Harankhed the 23rd December 1805.

My private communication of the 14th instant will have informed you of my intention to move to the westward in consequence of intelligence having been received of the arrival at Asseerghar of a body of three thousand plunderers headed by Soop Karim the Sardar who last year commanded a party of Holkar's Troops in Khandesh. On reaching Malkapore on the 20th instant I learnt that the Killedar of Asseerghar had received orders from Sindia to consider Soop Karim as a plunderer and to expel him from his territories and that in consequence the Killedar had assembled a force to oppose him which had induced Soop Karim to retire with his party from Burhanpur and that night to encamp at Eddillabad. Supposing that the intention of these Marauders would be rather to penetrate into Khandesh than Berar, I moved on the 21st instant 12 miles west to this place having formed a light corps consisting of the 2nd Regiment of Native Cavalry and the Mogul Horse about 1000 in number under Asseeruf Dowlah supported by the 2nd Battalion 7th Regiment Native Infantry the whole commanded

by Captain Scott of the latter corps to be in readiness to pursue them in whatever directions they might take. A knowledge however of the route of my march I fancy led them to move to the eastward thirty miles along the course of the Poornah river, which hearing of shortly after the arrival here of our detachment, I ordered Captain Scott with the corps placed under his orders, to move at 3 O'clock that evening in pursuit and that might be arrived within 10 miles of their encampment which lay at Barode north of the Poornah. The next day he moved early and after a march of 16 miles his detachment came up with these plunderers who had proceeded in the direction of Jalgaum, and successfully attacked them with considerable slaughter and persuaded them for 6 or 8 miles capturing 4 guns (all they had) and the whole of their baggage.

I have the honour to enclose a copy of Captain Scott's letter giving an account of this affair, and cannot omit to notice the judgment and activity which has been shown by that officer on this occasion, and the exemplary and gallant conduct of the officers and troops employed under him. Soop Karim himself with a few horse is said to have escaped, and to have gone towards the hills. I however feel confident in the belief that his party is completely dispersed and that this success will have the effect of deterring the many freebooters who are now in Hindustan from attempting to cross the frontiers of the Nizam's or Paishwah's territories.

I intend to move tomorrow from hence on my return towards Akola, it appearing from all late intelligence that Berar is again threatened with invasion by the Pindaries. Lieutenant-Colonel Doveton's detachment I did not withdraw from that province fearing this event, and hoping shortly to return sufficiently near to it, to support and supply it, as circumstances might render necessary.

A return of any casualties which may have occurred I shall have the honour to transmit when received from Captain Scott.

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Letter No. 29 —The letters refer to the whereabouts and cause of enmity between Chitoo, Jotiba and Karim—the Pindari leaders.

FROM—COLONEL DOVETON,

TO—M ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

Camp Douberry Tank, the 28th December 1805

My hircarrahs have just returned and given me the following information

That they went to Jellodah (4 coss beyond Gangasurry which is on the Gejhab River) 6 coss on this of the Nerbudda. Seetoo with his Derrah is at Jellodah, Jotiba Mannia and Kareem together on the opposite side of the river, which is full, Seetoo has drawn the boats on this side. That Jotiba and Kareem demand of the latter, one half of the booty lately acquired by him in his excursion into Berar, who refuses on the plea that it was obtained by his people alone. No hostilities have as yet actually taken place between these freebooters nor do they talk under the present existing circumstances of any particular excursion, but that if an accommodation should take place they would make over conjointly a circumstance that seem to be particularly urged on the part of Jotiba and Kareem.

Camp at Danberry Tank, the 28th December 1805

Sir

I have the honour to enclose you some intelligence which has just been brought me by my Hircarrhis and I impress from what I can learn it appears to me the probable state of matters at this present moment. You will of course have heard that Col Wallace on his march towards Burhanpur has crossed by a body of freebooters under Soop Karim against whom he immediately detached the 2nd Regiment and a Battalion under Capt Scott. They fortunately succeeded in coming up with them and took the whole of their baggage and 1 guns that he had with him with the trifling loss of 6 troopers wounded. Soop Karim himself with I believe the greater part of his horse made their escape and have gone off among the hills between Gawilghur and Ellichpur.

I have the honour to be

Sir

Your most obedient humble servant,

J DOWTON LT COLONEL

To

Honble M S Elphinstone

Resident at Nagpur

Letter No 30 —Elphinstone narrates the movements and plundering raids of the Pindaris in Bhonsla's territories and near about Nagpur. This had induced the Bhonsla to request for the permanent stationing of a body of British troops in Nagpur on the condition that the Bhonsla bore the cost of their maintenance. The difficulties of the Bhonsla in regard to the expulsion of the Pindaris are referred to.

FROM—M S ELPHINSTONE

TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL

Nagpur the 4th February 1806

On the day before yesterday in the morning I received a letter from Salabat Khan acquainting me that the Pindaries were at Sohaugpore and that he had in consequence moved towards the Ghats. In the evening Jeswant Rao informed me by note that the Pindaries had arrived at Ramtek and burnt the town. During the night I received intelligence that they had advanced to the river Kanhan about 6 miles from Nagpur with an apparent design to attack the city.

The Raja was busied all night in sending out troops and I understand assembled from 1 200 to 1 500 but could not be prevailed on to move against the enemy till they should have received their arrears of pay.

In course of yesterday I heard that 6 000 or 8 000 Pindaries advanced by Sohaugpore Seoni and Chhapara near which place Malji Ahir Rao and Sadik Ali Khan were encamped those Chiefs were deserted by the greater part of their Cavalry and marched with their infantry and guns to the defence of Seoni. On this a party of Pindaries amounting to about 2 000 got into their rear plundered their baggage and Bazar and proceeded to Ramtek which they set fire to in three places they then separated and plundered Nanderdun Goondygong Tuckarny and many other villages beyond the Kanhan besides 2 on this side of it. They also cut up some of a party of the Raja's horse who were advancing towards the Kanhan to reconnoitre. After they had plundered Ramtek and reduced part of it to

as his, they passed off to the eastward, plundered Tarra, Covee and many other villages, and proceeded to Bhandara a large town on the Vain Ganga which they are to have plundered and a large body of them is now said to have taken the road towards Dhunerda and Rattanpore. The alarm in Nagpur is by no means so great as might be expected. Some confusion naturally occurred on the night when the Pindaries were near, and advantage was taken of it to commit a considerable gang robbery, but nobody appears to have fled from the city.

I yesterday was visited by Jeswant Rao who after talking for some time on the subject of the present troubles, said that the Raja had sent him to enquire of me whether he could not have the temporary aid of a body of British troops in the manner in which I had formerly offered their assistance. On my replying that the state of affairs was materially altered since that time that we were not at peace with all India and had no interest in repelling the Pindaries, that our troops were in consequence withdrawn from Berar and that any authority to employ them for the defence of His Highness's dominions had ceased. Jeswant Rao put the question whether if the Raja were willing to expend one, two or even three lacks of rupees, the British Troops would march to his assistance. I observed that such a sum was no object to the Government, which would be influenced in its policy by far more extended consideration. Jeswant Rao explained that the three lacks was not intended for the Government, but for the accommodation of persons receiving salaries, and I told him that if troops were allowed to come to the Raja's assistance, no such expense would be necessary at present, no orders were given for such a measure, and nothing could be done without orders. I said I could nevertheless write to you and communicate to the Raja's wishes, but that I could not say that you would comply with them, as when I had last offered the Raja temporary assistance, he was threatened by the common enemy of his state and ours, which was not now the case. I was the more induced to return an answer of this sort, as Jeswant Rao in recounting the numbers opposed to the Raja, mentioned Jotiba and Juggoba and the rest, from which it appeared that the Raja had apprehended an attack from Sindia's regular army. When I enquired how Sindia was disposed towards the Raja, Jeswant Rao declared that Sindia had given the most solemn assurances of his good will and had promised not only to punish the Pindaries but to make to the Raja for the losses they had occasioned him. Jeswant Rao then urged again the propriety of assisting the Raja against the Pindaries. He said it was bad policy for His Highness to own that he was unable to cope with them, yet he confessed that his troops were so ill paid and so disputed that he had no prospect of being able to defend his dominions. With reference to the recall of the British Troops from Berar, Jeswant Rao said that though it might be an improper thing to mention it, he could not conceal his conviction that the Pindaries would attack Berar as soon as they learn that our troops had quitted it, and that it would then appear what the Nizam's troops would do when left to themselves. To this I answered that Pindaries being avowedly obedient to Sindia, there was no reason to think they had any design on Berar, and that though I did not pretend to say that the Nizam's troops were capable of great exertions when they had not the example and support of the British, yet I hoped they were sufficient to defend their own country from Pindaries. Jeswant Rao next acquainted me that the Raja had desired him in the event of my not complying with his request of assistance to beg that I would give him my advice concerning the line of conduct he should adopt in this extremity he went on to say that there was no fort into which His Highness could retire or to which he could send his family, that occupying the passes into the country had proved of no avail and that the main body of the Pindaries with infantry and guns was on its advance to attack him, that an attempt on Nagpur

seemed certain and that there was no chance of the city being saved in such an event. When he had concluded I replied that the Raja had Chanda and Garwaghur to which he might send his family in case of necessity, but that it would be imprudent to spread a panic by doing so on a slight alarm, that I could be no judge of the danger that threatened him as not knowing who were his enemies, but if he had nothing to dread but from the Pindaries, I could not think his danger very great. If he could not protect the passes he ought to maintain a large army on a central position the light part of which might pursue the Pindaries wherever they appeared while the rest remained to protect the Capital that the Pindaries if they remained in one body might thus be brought to action or forced to move so fast that they would not be able to plunder or if they broke into small parties the destruction of one or two of them would intimidate the rest who had acquired there present degree of boldness from the impunity with which they had hitherto carried on their depredations. Jeswant Rao said that it looked as if they now intended to stand a battle as they were advancing with guns and Infantry on which I observed that in such a case surely the Raja's Troops would defeat a band of robbers whose only safety lay in the celerity of their flight. Jeswant Rao expressed his hope that they might and again insisted on the necessity of succour from us he said if I wrote for orders the danger would be over before I received him and that the Raja had for that reason not desired to request me to write. He then dwelt for some time on the Raja's distresses and the difficulty he found in paying his troops which I endeavoured to show were not unusual by comparing them with the difficulties experienced by other native Governments and particularly by Sindia. After some time the conversation turned to the news of the day and Jeswant Rao informed me that Juggoo Bapoo had arrived at the place on the Nerbudda where Karim crossed. He enquired particularly regarding the treaties with Holkar and Sindia and I told him the terms of the former and as much of the latter as I knew which is that Sindia has ceded Dhoolpore Bancee etc. He received Gohud and Jevation which the undutiful conduct of the Rana rendered it inexpedient longer to protect. He then asked who was to have the office of Vizeer whether Sindia or the British. My expressing some surprize at the question drew from Jeswant Rao a long discourse on the sovereignty of the Emperor over all India and the claim which could in consequence be brought forward by those who protected him. This position which Jeswant Rao followed up by arrangements tendering to show that attention to their own interests generosity and even justice ought to induce the British assert the Emperor's authority afforded me an opportunity of explaining fully the principles of our Government and of showing how entirely all schemes of assumption and aggrandizement were excluded from the policy of the British Nation. Jeswant Rao afterwards returned to the subject of the arrangements with Sindia and Holkar and acquainted me that the Raja on hearing of them had shown a desire to know whether he might expect the settlement referred to in your letter to take place soon now that the tranquillity of India was restored to which I replied that the settlement he alluded to did not depend in any degree on the state of India that your doubts were now entirely removed and you had concluded the only part of the arrangement in your power which was the pensions and that I observed might satisfy the Raja's Government of your desire to adjust the rest as soon as you could. Jeswant Rao said he understood part to depend on you and part on another (alluding to Cuttack and Berar) and I positively asserted that no part depended on you. Jeswant Rao enquiring on whom there it depended I said I could not tell.

Jeswant Rao expressed some anxiety respecting the delay that had taken place in procuring him the house which Lord Wellesley had promised him at Benares and I assured him that he might depend on his being put in possession of such a house as soon as it could be found and purchased.

Letter No. 31.—Elphinstone reports how on 7th February a false alarm was raised when a small band of Bhonsla's troops came to Nagpur from Ramtek and were taken to be Pindaris. There was much confusion in the city. The Bhonsla now thinks of sending away his family to Chanda

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR,
TO—THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL

Nagpur, the 12th February 1806

I had the honour to report the proceedings of the Pindaries up to the 4th instant

On the 5th the troops under the command of Maljee Ahir Rao and Sadik Ali Khan arrived at Ramtek

On the 7th a small party of Maljee Ahir Rao's horse coming rather suddenly into Nagpur, a report arose that the town was attacked by the Pindaries. This rumour spread with great rapidity and occasioned the utmost confusion in Nagpur and the neighbouring villages. The alarm was increased by thieves who took advantage of it to plunder, and the tumult lasted till near sunset. On the same evening I received a note from Jeswant Rao informing me that the Pindaries, who had been to the Eastward had retired by the Rampilly Ghat (which I believe is to the South-East of Seoni) and that a fresh party to the number of ten thousand had arrived at Chapara

On the 8th I received a visit from Jeswant Rao who acquainted me that the Raja had come to a resolution to send his family to Chanda, and recommended to me to send my heavy baggage to the same place or to Ellichpore. He also informed me, the Raja was now determined to call in all his armies and levy new troops, and to use his utmost endeavours against the Pindaries. He next remarked that notwithstanding Sindia's professions, his conduct was extremely suspicious, as the Pindaries acknowledged his authority and abstained from plundering any territories which belonged to him. He then said that if there was a British Resident at Sindia's Court it would be conferring a great favour on the Raja if I would request him to take some opportunity of asking Sindia or his Ministers whether he was in war with the Bhonsla. I said that I did not suppose our Resident would wish to put any questions of that sort to Sindia, but that if I received any intelligence, that threw a light on that Chieftain's intentions, I would communicate them to him, adding that in my opinion Sindia was anxious to get the Pindaries out of his Country at any rate and that he did not concern himself where they went, so as they spared his dominions. Part of the Raja's property was despatched on the 10th to Chanda, his family is still here and it is said will not leave Nagpur for the present. The troops from Pandhurna and the Tarra Ghat have arrived, and are encamped about a mile and a half north of the city

Letter No. 32 —Elphinstone reports that the Bhonsla had assembled an Army at Nagpur under the command of Ganpat Rao, son of the late Vithal Pant Scobahdar of Berar and intends to send it to Hoshangabad to check the Pindaris

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR,
TO—THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL, FORT WILLIAM

Nagpur, the 15th May 1806

I had the honour to state in my dispatch of the 6th instant to the Secretary in the Persian Department, that I had wrote to Jeswant Rao objecting to a passage in the Raja of Berar's letter to you. In consequence the Raja

sent to Jeswant Rao to explain to me that he had no intention whatever to throw out anything against the faith of our Government and that if the letter were not yet gone he would willingly alter the objectionable parts of it. Jeswant Rao said that the Raja had mentioned his wish not to interfere with our treaties with the Nizam merely because it was necessary that he should assign some reason for the refusing the districts and he could not with propriety give his real one which was that he did not wish to lay himself under obligations to the Nizam for such a trifle. When Jeswant Rao finished his explanations I promised to communicate them to you and said I had no doubt they would be deemed satisfactory. Since the date of my last dispatch the Raja has been employed in equipping some troops for the field. He has assembled about 4000 men at this city to which he has added a party of about 1500 horse and foot under Raja Davy Dass who lately came from Hyderabad and was entertained by the Raja. The whole body has 10 guns attached to it and is commanded by Ganpat Rao the son of the late Withal Punt Soobdar of Bera. The common report is that this force is to be joined by that under Sadik Ali Khan on the Nerbudda and to go against Hoshangabad but Jeswant Rao states it to be intended only to keep the Pindaries in check. The Chiefs of the Pindaries are said to have come to some accommodation among themselves, and to be again connected with the Nabab of Bhopal. A considerable body of them has crossed the Nerhudda but as this advanced season they will probably not attempt any extensive depredations.

The companies under the command of Lieut Lloyd reached this on the 10th and the party of the 2nd Madras Native Regt together with the Mysore Horse march tomorrow to their respective

Letter No 33—The enclosure to this letter addressed by Mercer to Edmonstone reports that Karim Khan the Pindari Chief was seized with his relations and servants when he paid a visit to Sindhia. His camp was looted and his troops were dispersed.

FROM—G MERCER RESIDENT WITH DOWLAT RAO SINDIA
TO—M ELPHINSTONE RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

Camp Sackenbarce the 25th November 1806

I have the honour to enclose for your information a copy of my letter of yesterday's date to the address of Mr Secretary Edmonstone.

Vol 31—Enclosure to letter No 51

To
N B EDMONSTONE ESQUIRE
Secretary to Government
Fort William.

Sir

I have the honour to acquaint you for the information of the Hon'ble the Governor-General in Council that in a visit paid this morning by Karim Khan Pindarra to Dowlat Rao Sindia for the avowed purpose of receiving charge of the fort of Sackunbarce an opportunity was taken to seize the

person of the Pindarrah Chief and his relations and servants who had accompanied him. An immediate attack upon Karim Khan's Camp was ordered and after some resistance it was evacuated and plundered and the troops amounting to about three thousand horse dispersed and retired in the direction of Bhopal and Raggoghur.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

GROME MERCER,

Resident at Dowlat Rao Sindia

Camp near Sackunbaree
The 22nd November 1806

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NIZAM'S AFFAIRS

Letter No 1 —Reports the death of Azimul Umrah the Prime Minister of the Nizam on the morning of 9th May 1804

FROM—MAJOR KIRKPATRICK RESIDENT AT HYDRABAD

TO—M S LIPINSTON RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

Hyderabad the 9th May 1804

It is with infinite grief and concern that I have to acquaint you that the Prime Minister of this State Azimool Omrah Ariston Jah Bahadur departed this life at day break this morning after a short but severe illness of four days

Preparations are now making for his funeral at the family vault in the neighbourhood of the city and I have thought it a compliment justly due to the eminent rank which the deceased minister held in this state as well as a proper mark of respect to the memory of a man so long and so intimately connected as Azimool Omrah was with the Company's Government to direct minute guns (seventy five in number) to be fired in the British Cantonment on this mournful occasion

Letter No 2 —This forms as enclosure to a letter from Kirkpatrick to the Governor-General This is an important document that throws light on the state of affairs in Nizam's Court The methods employed by the British to lighten their grips on the Nizam and at the same time keep in reserve a strong army at the cost of the Nizam are clearly evidenced here. The discussion described here pertains to the establishment of a contingent of 10 000 Silledar horse In addition to the existing contingent of 15,000 according to the Subsidiary Alliance Sikandar Jah the Nizam shows his unwillingness for it but Meer Alium his Prime Minister forces it on him

FROM—MAJOR KIRKPATRICK RESIDENT AT HYDRABAD
TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL

Dated the 31st May 1805

After the usual friendly enquiries Meer Alium informed me that when you (Captain K) had left the palace on the evening of the 26th he had observed to His Highness that the draft of the plan for the establishment of a body of Ten Thousand Silledar Cavalry having been submitted to His Highness he was desirous of receiving his final instructions regarding it That His Highness had replied that he had certainly seen and perused the propositions in question but that he did not conceive them to be necessary that he was ready in compliance with the terms of the treaty to collect the requisite number of cavalry and infantry but that if it were intended to frame a new engagement independantly of the treaty it was indeed another question

That in reply to this he (Meer Alium) had represented to His Highness that the proposed plan might be considered as supplementary to the Treaty That troops of His Highness's Government did not assemble at the proper time and that the object of the present plan was to establish a body of horse which should always be prepared for service and to ensure the complete performance of all the obligations of the alliances besides being productive of many advantages to His Highness's immediate Government

That His Highness hereupon asked if his troops were not ready at the proper time to which he (Meer Allum) had answered only a certain number. That in the late campaign for instance the troops of Shumsool Omrah had not joined the army until after the surrender of Chandoor and that the party of Noorul Omrah had not amounted to more than two hundred men.

On this occasion Meer Allum told me, Noor Ool Omrah interposed in the conversation and assured His Highness that he had supplied by new levies the deficiencies of his party and had remitted many for its payment to Raja Mahiput Ram. That if His Highness were pleased to confer on him the command of ten thousand horse, he would obey all instructions that he might receive and march wither-so-ever he might be directed and that he (Meer Allum) replied to Noorool Omrah, that it was very easy to make boastful declarations but that in the hour of need nothing was effected.

Here Meer Allum said, His Highness addressed himself to the Officers whoever present at the Durbar observing that he appealed to his Omrahs and the dependants on his family, how their troops were to be supported if an additional body of ten thousand silledar cavalry were established in his Government, and then turning to Meer Allum said all this is to be imputed to your inability and neglect. It is you who have injured my affairs. If my troops were not ready at the time stipulated by Treaty why were you inattentive? Excepting the treaty that already exist I wish not to enter into any new engagements, and in fact, interference in such instances is inconsistent with the terms of the Treaty. That he (Meer Allum) replied that to render the troops of His Highness efficient and to provide territory for their payment in order that the obligations of the alliance might be performed was not at all incompatible with the terms of the Treaty. That neither the Talookdar or Jagheerdar troops were regularly paid. That to this His Highness observed that if the Talookdar or Jagheerdar, did not pay the troops regularly, the necessary amount might have been drawn from the Treasury. That this would have been allowable. But that if a body of ten thousand silledar cavalry were established in compliance with the present propositions there would be no employment for the troops of his Omrahs and of the dependants on his family, and that they would all be left without subsistence.

In answer to this Meer Allum told me he had represented to His Highness that ten thousand silledar cavalry were already in the service of the State and that the principle on which it was now proposed to reorganize them, would not in any respect injure the troops of the Jagheerdars or of the dependants on the family of His Highness.

That the above having passed His Highness arose, when Noor Ool Omrah requested that His Highness would be pleased to grant his son leave to return to his Jagheer representing at the same time that he was now unable to provide for the expenses of his family and that as his eldest son was now grown up, he trusted that His Highness would provide for his future maintenance. To this His Highness replied that he must first remove the complaint that had been preferred against him and that he might then state his son's case to His Highness. That Noor Ool Omrah said that his troops were actually with the army and that he had remitted money for their payment to Raja Mahiput Ram to which Meer Allum replied that the money which he had remitted was not sufficient to pay the whole of his party, that His Highness then retired into his Mahal.

Meer Allum proceeded to state that on the following morning Zee-aool Moolk the Aruzbegee of His Highness had called and conveyed to him the orders of His Highness to provide according to

Treaty for nine thousand cavalry and six thousand infantry being always forthcoming in some manner that might be satisfactory to the Resident and when this should be accomplished to wait on His Highness with an Arjee from himself and a letter from you declaring that you were satisfied with the arrangement. But until some such arrangement should be concluded he was desired not to go to the palace. To this communication Meer Allum said he had replied that the conclusion of the arrangement which His Highness desired depended on His Highness's affixing his seal and signature to the plans for the proposed establishment of silledar cavalry and that when this should be done, he would submit to His Highness the Arjee from himself and the necessary letter expressive of satisfaction from the Resident. That as this was an affair of considerable importance and as many advantages would be derived from the adoption of the proposed plan he begged leave to suggest that it ought not be delayed. Meer Allum said that Zeeanol Moolk had submitted this to His Highness and had returned to him with an answer intimating that His Highness would not consent to any additional cavalry establishment but that His Highness might nevertheless perhaps see him on the following morning.

When Meer Allum had thus concluded the communications I observed to him in obedience to the general instructions which I had received from you for the purpose that he must be perfectly convinced that in suggesting the present plan His Excellency the Governor General could have had nought in view but the interests, dignity and power of His Highness's Government and that as its adoption would be productive of advantage to His Highness and would enhance his (Meer Allum's reputation) as a minister it was desirable either that he should himself at his approaching audience state unreservedly the merits of the plan to His Highness or request His Highness to fix a day for receiving you when you would discuss the subject fully with His Highness and endeavour to impress on His Highness's mind a conviction of the numerous advantages that his Government would derive from the proposed Establishment but that if your arguments should prove inefficient and His Highness should still persist in his rejection of the plan you would submit the circumstance to His Excellency the most Noble the Governor General for that the only object in the present proposition was the advancement of His Highness's interests and the performance of the obligations of the alliance and that independently of these considerations it must be a matter of indifference to the British Government whether His Highness confirmed or rejected them.

To this Meer Allum replied that by the blessing of God the conclusion of this affair would not require that you should wait on His Highness. That the fact was that Secunder Jah was utterly unequal to the comprehension of important and delicate affairs and that Ismail Yar Jung had lately acquired much ascendancy over the mind of His Highness and spoke of the Meer to His Highness in such terms as to excite His Highness's jealousy and apprehension but that if you (Colonel K.) would assist him in accomplishing that obnoxious person's removal an effectual stop would be put to those insinuations from which serious bad consequences must at length inevitably result. I hereupon asked Meer Allum what plea existed for a measure of so strong a nature which was not I believed likely to meet with your concurrence since except indeed in the extreme case of overt acts of delinquency against both Governments being actually proved against Ismail Yar Jung(?). To this Meer Allum answered that he apprehended it would be impracticable to adduce such proof as you (Colonel K.) seemed to require but that the conduct of Ismail Yar Jung was known to many people and that in the present instance he had learned from Roop Lall and other persons of respectability that His Highness's opposition to the present plan had originated in

Ismail Yar Jung That a better plea for interference than this surely could not be required since his continuance about His Highness's person would at length be productive of serious mischief and inconvenient in the political affairs of the State

I assured Meer Allum that I should report to you all that he had said and he then proceeded to complain of the slights and inattention which he latterly had experienced from Secunder Jah who he told me had lately in opposition to his former practice been on various occasions extremely inattentive to him, that for instance His Highness had not consulted him about sending his tents to the Omrah Begum's garden and had not even desired him to accompany him, that although such slights did not make any deep impression upon his mind, still he could not help feeling dissatisfied at such a departure from common usage and that he had it therefore, in contemplation to resent it by neither sending out his tents, nor accompanying His Highness on his party of pleasure

Bearing in mind your injunctions on the particular subject, I here observed to the minister, that however, neglectful or inattentive the conduct of His Highness might be it was still your decided opinion that he (Meer Allum) would do well not to appear to notice it, and that he ought by all means therefore to send out his tents according to custom and accompany His Highness to the garden I recommended him at the same time in obedience to your directions to bear in mind the friendly hints which your attachment to him had occasionally induced you to suggest, and to discontinue that excess adulation and flattery with which he had hitherto been accustomed to feed Secunder Jah, and which you always apprehended would sooner or later lead to the disgraceable consequences that now began to manifest themselves

Meer Allum said that your opinion had proved perfectly correct and that he had certainly acted erroneously in displaying such excessive devotion to His Highness and in consulting His Highness's whims and caprice on every occasion That sensible of his error, he had for some time past observed a different conduct and if you approve of it in order to bring His Highness back to the right path he would insist on the same implicit trust and confidence which his father extended to his ministers being either bestowed on him, or upon His Highness taking upon himself the management of state affairs and thus exonerating him from all responsibility

To this I replied that as such a proposal at the present time might be productive of unpleasant consequences it appeared to be more advisable that the Meer should exert his patience and endeavour to restore His Highness to the right path by the mild influence of persuasion

This Meer Allum promised me he would endeavour to do, and he then proceeded to observe that by associating with such ignorant men as Ismail Yar Jung, His Highness had imbibed a notion that His Excellency the Governor-General was so entirely at his devotion that he would comply with any desire that His Highness might express for the removal of his Ministers or even of the British Resident at his Court To this I replied that in consideration of the intimacy of the alliance which subsisted between the two States His Excellency the Governor-General it might be fairly presumed was perfectly well inclined to pay the utmost attention to all His Highness's reasonable wishes but that such notions as those which His Highness was described as having imbibed from his intercourse with Ismail Yar Jung, could only be imputed to His Highness's inexperience and want of judgment and information

The minister then said that not being very deeply attached to the office which he held and as he saw no end to the vexation and trouble which he had hitherto submitted to from a love of some he was dissatisfied at heart and was half inclined to send in his resignation. To this I replied that he (Meer Allum) ought on no account to suffer such thoughts to enter his mind and that I earnestly trusted that the necessity of retiring would fall on his enemies and not upon himself.

The minister here apparently much affected enumerated many instances of the mistreatment he had experienced and of the extreme folly and ignorance of His Highness in which in obedience to your instructions I replied in terms of comfort adapted to the occasion observing that he ought not to allow such occurrences to interrupt the tranquillity of his mind but rather devise some means for their removal.

Meer Allum in conclusion expatiated on the nature and degree of support which you afforded to the late minister and said that although he hoped in a few audiences to eradicate the mistaken ideas which His Highness seemed to have imbibed and that your support might not therefore be absolutely requisite in the present instance he nevertheless trusted that it should eventually become necessary the British Government would afford him its most ample countenance and aid in order that he might thenceforward be relieved from anxieties such as now perplexed him. To this I conceived that if it should ever become indispensably requisite to resort to such an expedient I had reason to think that you would most cheerfully extend to him that degree of support authorized by your instructions but that this was a measure which you were always of opinion ought to be kept in reserve as long as possible and only resorted to in the last extremity. The minister said that such also was his own opinion and shortly after I took my leave and withdrew.

Letter No. 3.—This letter along with the enclosures 1 and 2 which come after the letter further illustrates the objective of the British in forcing upon the Nizam a Military establishment of 10 000 cavalry troops to be stationed in various parts of Berar and maintained out of the revenues of Berar. Enclosures 1 and 2 deserve careful study.

FROM—COL. J. A. KIRKPATRICK, RESIDENT AT HYDERABAD

TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL, FORT WILLIAM

Hyderabad the 6th June 1805

In the 14th para. of my last address No. 365 I had the honour to acquaint Your Excellency that the minister had that morning communicated to my Moonshy His Highness's assent under certain modifications to my plan for the establishment of a body of Silledar cavalry and I have now the honour to enclose for Your Excellency's notice translation (No. 1) of my Moonshy's report of his conference with the Prime Minister at which the assent in question was signified.

2. Though I can readily believe My Lord, that the earnestness now testified by Meer Allum for the successful termination of the negotiations in hand really proceeds in a great measure from the conviction that he professes to feel of the urgent necessity of a regular Silledar establishment it must be abundantly evident at the same time to Your Excellency from the undisguised sentiments on this head invariably professed by the Prime

Minister and regularly reported in my public despatches that the sequestration either entire or partial of the great military Jagheers is an object which has no small share in the active part that he appears unfeignedly to have taken of late for the early accomplishment of the foregoing measure

3 The opinion which I myself indeed have always entertained and occasionally ventured to submit respectfully to Your Excellency on the above important subject is not unfavourable to that moderate degree of reduction of the great military Jagheers suggested by the minister in the accompanying report, and affirmed (not altogether perhaps without foundation) to be highly requisite if not indispensably necessary to ensure the regular payment of the proposed establishment of Silledar Cavalry in the event of a failure from either natural or artificial causes in the revenues of the country to be appropriated to their maintenance

4 I am however by no means perfectly clear My Lord that even this favourite expedient of partial sequestration of Jagheers or rather partial diversion into a new channel of the revenues occurring from them would perfectly answer the professed end in view, namely, the regular payment under every contingency of the body of Silledar Horse in question, though we're my mind ever so fully made up on this essential point I should still deem it my duty, under the prohibitory tenour of Your Lordship's instructions for my guidance to withhold (as I have accordingly done) my acquiescence in any innovation prejudicial to the great military Jagheerdars

5 The enclosure No 2 is a translation with Persian copy annexed of the rough draft which I originally submitted to the minister with the alterations suggested by His Highness the Soubahdar and which are marked in red ink for Your Excellency's more particular notice

6 Some of these alterations are merely verbal, others immaterial, and a few real improvement on the original plan but these are one or two of a nature so subversive of the great end in view, namely, the regular payment of the proposed establishment that I have thought it right, to give the minister unreservedly to understand, that their admission on my part would render the whole plan nugatory

7 The alterations to which I here allude, My Lord occur in the 1st and 6th articles of the altered plan, and go (the former) to the substitution of an unlimited numbers of Serishtadars, to the single officer of that description required by my original proposition and the latter, by the introduction of the words "as far as they may be able" to furnish this Government with a most dangerous pretext for withholding payment at pleasure from the public treasury in the event of any temporary failure in the usual source from whence this Silledar Establishment is to derive its maintenance

8 The former of these two alterations has been introduced for the purpose of increased patronage and its invariable concomitants, increased bribery and corruption, objects which it would not have been my business to defeat, did they not materially affect in the present instance that great and fundamental point responsibility, for the due management and appropriation of the revenues of Berar, which I am fully persuaded is only attainable by the selection of some individual Mootsuddy of experience, wealth and good repute for the office of Serishtadar

9 With a view to bring the remaining point in discussion to as early a close as possible I sent my Moonshy to the minister on the 4th instant to give him in the first place definitely to understand that my acquiescence in his proposition for a reduction of one-eighth in the Military Establishment

of the great Jagheerdars and a diversion of a proportionate part of the revenue of their respective Jagheers into the public treasury was as he could not but be fully aware entirely out of my power and to assign to him in the second my reasons for objecting to the two alterations specified in the 7th para of his address

10 My Moonshy in his report to me of what passed on the foregoing occasion describes the minister as sufficiently convinced by the arguments which he was directed to employ of the dangerous tendency of the alterations above alluded to but extremely averse to relinquish his design respecting a partial reduction of the great Military Jagheers

11 It was at last however finally determined at the above visit that a draft of His Highness the Soubahdar's intended letter to Your Excellency specifying the terms on which he engaged to maintain the proposed body of Silledar Horse should be made out and communicated to me without delay when I shall be able to ascertain the degree of attention which my latter suggestions have met with

12 I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Your Lordship's commands of the 14th ultimo through the Secretary in the Political Department in reply to my address No 352 of the 11th February and shall take an opportunity of explaining to Meer Allum the terms on which he can lodge his money with facility in the Company's Fund

13 Your Excellency may rely on my paying the utmost attention to the instructions conveyed in the 8th and 9th para of Mr Secretary Edmonstone's letter and beg leave at the same time to assure Your Excellency that though I may have omitted duly reporting the same I have not failed on more than one occasion to discourage the remonstrances of the vakeel from the Raja of Berar and to point out to them the proper channel for any representation which their court may have to make to the British Government

Translation of Moonshy Uzeez Ooslah's report of his conference with Meer Allum on the 31st of May 1805

After the usual friendly inquiries Meer Allum desired me to inform you (Col K) that he had at length succeeded in impressing on the mind of His Highness a conviction of the advantages that might be derived from the proposed establishment of Silledar Cavalry, but that His Highness had made some alterations in your draft of the plan which the Meer at the same time delivered to me for your perusal requesting me to return it to him after you should have read it in order that it might be finally prepared in the form either of an engagement or of a letter from His Highness. To this in obedience to your directions I replied that the adoption of the proposed plan depended entirely on His Highness that the British Government had not any views of self interest whatever in recommending it that if therefore His Highness voluntarily approved of it it was well but that otherwise you by no means intended to obtrude it on His Highness. That it referred merely to the interests of His Highness's Government and that it was unnecessary therefore to enter into any further discussions on the subject. That these considerations had induced you to observe that if an early day were appointed for your waiting on His Highness you would explain to him that the acceptance or rejection of the proposed plan rested entirely with His Highness and that whatever might be His Highness's determination would be equally agreeable to you

Meer Allum here said that the determination of His Highness might perhaps be a matter of indifference to you but that it was by no means so to him as such a body of Cavalry was urgently wanted both for the in

ternal management of the country in time of peace and for the due discharge of the obligations of the alliance in time of war, the responsibility of which latter he added devolved in a great measure on him as Prime Minister. That this circumstance alone would have induced him to recommend the organisation of His Highness's military establishment, and that on the present occasion he had strongly represented to His Highness that the proposed body of Silledar Cavalry would ensure the easy and satisfactory performance of all the obligations of treaty and would place His Highness in the possession of every advantage that a prince could derive from the due establishment of his authority throughout his dominions. Meer Allum said that after listening to the arguments which he had thus adduced in support of the plan His Highness had with great readiness agreed to its adoption. That in his own opinion the Silledar Establishment would be found productive of the most important advantages to His Highness's Government and that as His Highness had at length voluntarily sanctioned it, it would be unnecessary for you to wait on His Highness until after the plan should have been confirmed by the seal and signature of His Highness, and ready for delivery.

The above conversation being here concluded Meer Allum said that he had requested me to call on him in order to communicate to me for your information that on receiving your draft of the plan for the Silledar Establishment His Highness had directed that in the event of any failure on the part of the Surrishtadars the money that might be requisite for the payment of the corps should be drawn from the treasury of the Dewan. The Meer observed that although the whole of Berar had been allotted to the provisions of funds he apprehended that the revenues of that province would still be found inadequate to the purpose and that in an arrangement like the present the probability of failures in the corps from natural or other causes ought to be taken into the scale of consideration, that in order therefore, to provide against every emergency, and to preclude the necessity of future remonstrance, as the Jagheerdars were well known not to maintain the full number of troops for which Jagheers were entrusted to them, he proposed to require from all the Military Jagheerdars the payment in cash of one-eighth of the amount of their respective Jagheer and to authorize their making a proportionate reduction in the number of troops which they are bound to keep up. That this measure which bore hard on no one would not be objected to by the Jagheerdars themselves and that the addition of so large a sum to the Treasury of the Dewan as the aggregate of these savings would constitute would effectually provide for the regular payment of the Silledar Cavalry even if any unfortunate events should cause a failure in the revenues of Berar.

I assured Meer Allum that I should report to you the proposal which he had made and communicate to him your answer.

In obedience to your directions I also told Meer Allum that one of your motives among others in desiring that an early day might be fixed for your waiting on His Highness was that an opportunity might be thereby afforded to you of speaking to His Highness on his (Meer Allum's) behalf and of endeavouring to remove the causes of that dissatisfaction which His Highness had lately evinced. To this the Meer replied that he felt much indebted to your kind and friendly intentions and shortly after I took my leave and withdrew.

A true translation and copy

HENRY RUSSELL,

*Translation of a plan for the establishment of a body of ten thousand
Silledar Cavalry as altered by His Highness the Soubahdar*

[N. B.—The alterations and additions made by His Highness are written in red ink.]

Whereas the interests, dignity and power of the Government of His Highness the Soubahdar and the performance of the obligations of the Treaty of Alliance depend on the efficiency of His Highness's Army, a plan is now submitted to His Highness which has been settled by His Highness's Ministers for the improvement of his Military establishment

1 As the regular issue of monthly pay is among the most powerful causes of the efficiency of a Military Establishment it is proposed that the whole of the country of Berar shall be fixed on for the support of a Body of Ten Thousand Silledar Horse. *Serishtadars shall be selected from the party from among the mootasuddies of Established Reputation on whose assurances and conduct reliance can be placed and they shall be permitted to receive the acknowledged emoluments of their office and the country of Berar shall be entrusted to their managements in order that they may be enabled to apply its revenues to the regular monthly payment of the party where it may be stationed. But excepting their authority over the country and the regular monthly payment of the troops the Serishtadars shall not in any respect whatever interfere in the said body of Silledar Cavalry.*

2 The party shall consist of Ten Risalahs and each Risalah of a thousand men at the monthly rate of Fifty Rupees each man of a Reesaldar at the rate of Five Hundred Rupees a month of two Jemmadars at the rate of two hundred and fifty rupees each and of ten Dafadars at the rate of one hundred rupees each

3 All these Reesalahs shall be distinct that is to say that no one of them shall have any connection with or dependance on another and a person of respectability who may be qualified for a command shall be appointed to command them in time of war and that person shall according to custom conduct all Military operations in conformity to the opinion of the commander of the British Troops

4 The posts of Rasuluhdar Jemmadar and Dafadar shall be conferred according to the selection of the British Residents on such subjects of His Highness the Soubahdar as may be qualified for the respective posts

5 An Enayetnamah under the seal and signature of His Highness shall be granted to each Reesaldar engaging to replace such horses as may be killed in time of war and to provide for the families of such Horsemen as may fall in action and a duplicate of this Enayetnamah, under the seal and signature of His Highness shall be lodged in the custody of the British Resident

6 As regular monthly payment is among the causes that conduce most powerfully to the efficiency of Military Establishments and as the removal or supercession of the Sherishtadar rests with the Government of His Highness the Soubahdar it is requisite that His Highness should himself be responsible for the regular monthly payment of the party and that if therefore the Serishtadar should ever fail in providing regular Funds for that purpose the Ministers of His Highness shall as far as they may be able issue the requisite amount from the Treasury of the Deewan

7 In time of peace this party of Silledar Cavalry shall be employed in the service of His Highness the Soubahdar but in time of war according to the Treaty they shall be collected, stationed and employed in any quarter that the British Government may point out for the performance of the obligations of the alliance from which numerous advantages will be derived

8 As this establishment of Silledar Cavalry is expressly designed for the due performance of the obligations of *the Treaty of Alliance* the British Resident shall be entitled to muster the party whenever he may think it necessary to make a requisition to that effect *and in the event of any failure being proved against any of the Reesaladars, Jemmadars, Duffadars or Horsemen, the representation of the British Resident to His Highness for their suppression or dismissal shall be attended to*

9 The enlisting of good men from whom useful service may be expected, the provision of proper equipments and accoutrements for the Horsemen, the transmission of regular information of the deaths and desertions among the men and the casualties among the horses, and the regular practice of the usual exercise of evolutions depend on the Reesaladar. If therefore, any of the Reesaladars should be negligent of their duty in any of the foregoing instances, or should appropriate the pay of the troops to their own use, they shall on proof being induced of their criminality be punished and dismissed from their employment

A true translation and copy

HENERY RUSSELL

[The passages in italics in this letter represent those written in "Red Ink" in the original letter]

Letter No 4 —The original proposal of the British Resident now assumes the form of the Nizam's application to the Governor-General proposing the establishment of 10,000 cavalry in Berar to be paid out of the revenues of Berar, in accordance with the Subsidiary Treaty of 1800 This is diplomacy.

FROM—COL J A KIRKPATRIC, RESIDENT AT HYDERABAD.
TO—THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL

Hyderabad, the 13th June 1805

1 The 11th paragraph of my last address No 366, will have made Your Excellency fully acquainted with the advanced state of my negotiation for the establishment of the Body of Silledar Horses and I have now the honour to enclose for Your Excellency's notice copy and translation of the draft of His Highness the Soobah's letter to Your Excellency on the subject alluded to in that paragraph with the alterations or additions annexed which I felt myself under the necessity of again suggesting

2 My experience of the evasive procrastinating spirit of Asiatic Durbars forbad my acquiescence in the dangerous latitude which the concluding sentence of the 1st article would afford this Government for unlimited delay in the execution of its own engagements and I accordingly deemed it incumbent on me to substitute the words marked in red ink in the accompanying translation

3 The reduction on the present draft of one thousand in the amount of the Silledar Horse proposed in my original plan proceeds of course from economical motives and is warranted as this Court fondly conceives by its defensive engagements to being limited in all cases to the furnishing of nine thousand cavalry.

4 Unwarranted however as such a notion is either by the spirit or letter of the Treaty of 1800 I should still perhaps My Lord have requested and I have since given the Minister to understand in the wished for reduction if it were possible to suppose that such reduced establishment would enable this Government to fulfil the stipulation in the former part of the 12th Article by which it is bound at the very outset of a war to furnish nine thousand cavalry

5 The addition which I have suggested to the 2nd Article and which is marked in red ink at the end of that Article appeared to me most indispensably necessary to guard against that ruinous system of depredation on the pay of the Horsemen which was no doubt intended by the words according to the Regulations of the Sarkar and which if allowed to remain without the suggested addition would have defeated the whole plan by subjecting both the officers and privates of the Reesaliahs to heavy and endless extortion

6 The omission in the Article of the enclosed draft of any fixed time for issuing in cases of necessity pay to the Silledar Horse from the Treasury is to be traced to the same evasive principle which led to the insertion of the words as far as they may be able that occur in the 6th Article of the plan as first altered by His Highness and enclosed in my last address. To defeat this object I have inserted the words without delay which if admitted cannot fail to have the desired effect

7 The intermediate word precise and the concluding sentence without any deductions whatever which I have added to the 5th Article of the accompanying draft will also if allowed to stand prove an effectual bar to the extortions in contemplation against the pay of the proposed Silledar Party

8 My reason for introducing the word invariably in the outset of the 9th Article of the enclosed draft was to convey thereby an intimation to Secunder Jih that the engagement which he was about to enter into was of a fixed and permanent nature, a declaration which could not perhaps have been unreservedly inserted in the body of my original plan without hazarding the early termination at least of the negotiation entrusted to my management

9 To bring these undetermined points to as early an issue as possible I sent my Moonshy the day before yesterday to wait upon the Minister who is in attendance on His Highness at a Garden a few miles from the City

10 The detailed explanation of my reasons for objecting to the alterations again introduced into the Silledar Plan by His Highness which Uzeez Ullah entered into at the above meeting appeared to have at length as he informs me the desired effect on Meer Allum from whose concession he plainly however discovered that the real obstacle to the immediate conclusion of the negotiation on the exact terms which I wished was my persevering or as the Minister termed it pertinacious opposition to the proposed expedient for ensuring the regular pay of the Silledar Horse by a small proportionate reduction in the Jagheerdar Establishment.

11 The principal reason as the Minister assured my Moonshy for the latitude in point of time required by the 1st Article of the Soobah's draft in the organization of the proposed body of Silledar Horse was the absolute impossibility as he (Meer Allum) contends of completing the establishment in the efficient mode required for a considerable time to come or as long as short as the services of His Highness's contingent may be required on the frontier there being by Meer Allum's account (which I have reason to believe however is rather exaggerated) near five thousand Silledar Horse

serving under Raja Mahiput Ram, whose conformity to the new intended system would at the present period not only materially affect their actual organization, but interfere with the arrangements already made for their subsistence

12 I was always indeed aware My Lord, that the complete organisation of the whole of the proposed Silledar Establishment would be a work of time, but I trust I shall nevertheless be able to reconcile Meer Allum to the alteration which I have suggested in the 1st Article by assuring him (as I have accordingly done) that nothing beyond, reasonable exertion towards the completion as far as possible of the above establishment can in any event be expected, and that after ascertaining the real number of cavalry of that description serving with His Highness's contingent in the frontier, it will only remain to collect and organize as near may be practicable to the capital, the remaining number requisite to make up the stipulated amount of ten thousand, with a view to their being employed hereafter as circumstances may render requisite

13 At this interview the Minister among other communications of less importance reiterated (as my Moonshy informs me) his complaints not only against the growing influence of Ishmail Yar Jung, but likewise of Ehtasam Ul Moolk, the late Nizam's Moonshy, both of whom he described as in league with His Highness's mother Shuneeutoon Nissah Begum to introduce Rajah Ragotim Rao once more to an active share in the public administration, adding that he much feared the weakness and perverseness of His Highness's disposition would at length reluctantly compel him to avail himself of my proffered interference, which Your Lordship may accordingly rely on my exerting if necessary in his behalf to such extent as circumstances may appear to require, and as may be warranted by the tenor of Your Excellency's instructions

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Translation of a draft of letter from His Highness the Soubahdar to His Excellency the Most Noble the Governor-General with the material deviations from the original plan for the Silledar Establishment underlined, and the amendments or additions again suggested by Colonel Kirkpatrick annexed in red ink

[The italics indicate the amendments in print]

Since the commencement of the present unavoidable war which was undertaken with the concurrence and cooperation of the allied powers, notwithstanding the various calamities that the Divine Will inflicted on my Government, exclusively of the dearness of Grain, the scarcity of the necessaries of life and the casualties among men and cattle which happened in my Dominions, the vigour of the exertions which I have made by the Aid of God, and in conformity to the sincerity of my mind and the purity of my intentions, in fulfilling to the utmost practicable extent, the obligations of the alliance, is not concealed from Your Excellency And as by the Blessing of Providence, it is my fixed intention to display in future the same firmness and alacrity in adhering to the terms of my engagements and in preserving the relations of amity, I have been induced by the intimacy of the friendship that subsists between us, to communicate to Your Excellency a plan which has suggested itself to my mind, for the organization of my cavalry, and with the assistance of the Almighty, this plan has been determined upon *and shall take effect without delay*

As the interests, dignity, and power of states, depend on the correctness of their military arrangements, and as the regular issue of monthly pay is the most powerful cause of the efficiency of their establishments, the country of Berar has been fixed on for the support of a body of Ten Thousand Silledar Cavalry One of my confidential servants, a man of

reputation on whose assurances and conduct reliance can be placed shall be appointed Serrishtadar of the aforesaid body of cavalry and he shall receive the usual emoluments of his office according to the Regulations of this Sirkar from the Revenues of the countries under his charge

The Country of Berar shall be entrusted in the said Serrishtadar in order that having established his authority throughout it he may apply its Revenues to the Regular monthly payment of the party either at Hyderabad or at any other place where it may be stationed. But except his authority over the country and the regular monthly payment of the troops the said Serrishtadar shall not in any respect whatever interfere in the said body of Silledar Cavalry

If the said Serrishtadar should ever neglect to provide Funds for the Regular payment of the party or the Revenues of Berar be found inadequate to the maintenance of ten thousand cavalry the requisite amount shall without delay be issued from the Treasury of the Dewan

This body of ten thousand cavalry in the service of my Government shall be divided into ten Reesalahs, each Reesalah to consist of one thousand Horsemen at the monthly rate of fifty rupees each of one Reesaladar at the rate of five hundred rupees a month of two Jemmadars at the rate of two hundred and fifty rupees each and ten Duffadars at the rate of one hundred rupees each without any deductions whatever

All these Reesalahs shall be distinct and no one of them shall have any connection with or dependance on another. But in time of war a person of respectability who may be qualified for such a command shall be appointed to command them and according to custom that person shall conduct all operations connected with the War and all measures relating to peace in conformity to the opinion of the Commander of the British Troops

The posts of Reesaladar Jemmadar and Duffadar shall be conferred according to the selection of the British Resident on such subjects of His Highness the Soobahdar as may be qualified for those respective posts. And in the event of any failure being proved against any of those officers the Representation of the British Resident for the supercession or removal of any such Reesaladar Jemmadar Duffadar or Horseman shall be complied with

My Gracious intention to grant to each Reesaladar an Enayetnamah under my seal and signature engaging to replace such Horses as may be killed in time of War and to provide for the families of such horsemen as may sacrifice their lives in action. And a duplicate of this Enayetnamah under my seal and signature shall be delivered to the British Resident

In time of peace this body of Cavalry shall be employed with service of my Government but in time of War it shall according to Treaty be invariably collected stationed, or employed in any quarter that the British Government may point out for the performance of the obligations of the alliance in the foregoing manner from which numerous advantages will be derived. And the British Resident shall be entitled to muster the said body of Cavalry whenever he may think it necessary to make a Requisition to that effect.

The enlisting of good men from whom useful service may be expected the provision of proper accoutrements and equipments for the horsemen the transmission of regular information of the deaths and desertions among the men and the casualties among the horses and the regular practice

therefore, any of the Reesaladar, should be neglectful of their duty, in any of the foregoing instances, or should appropriate the pay of the Troops to their own use they shall on proof being adduced of their criminality be punished and dismissed from their employment

A true translation and copy

HENERY RUSSELL.

Letter No 5.—This letter from paras 9 to 14 together with the enclosure containing a report of the conversation between Meer Allum and Colonel Kirkpatrick's Moonshy are important. The enclosure throws light on the sentiments of the Nizam towards Meer Allum, and in regard to the Sillahdar Establishment and also on the Anand Rao affair.

FROM—B CLOSE, RESIDENT AT POONA,

TO—MARQUIS WELLESLEY, GOVERNOR-GENERAL

Poona, the 22nd June 1805

9 The Minister's principal motive for describing the suspicions against the British Government which he has so repeatedly imputed to Secunder Jah as having been again recently aroused probably are to preserve thereby the credit which he has heretofore assumed for the score of their eradication, and to instill a portion of his own jealousy into my mind against Ismail Yar Jung, who is no doubt the person to whom Meer Allum alludes in the passage of my Moonshy's report now under consideration

10 But though the Minister may from fear or from interested motives exaggerate in his account of the actual state of things between the Soubahdar and himself there is no doubt My Lord that the growing misunderstanding between them has arisen to a pitch that requires some remedy and it being certainly possible, though I trust not very probable that this misunderstanding might in the end enable the Minister's powerful enemies to effect his ruin, I should be happy to be honoured with Your Excellency's special instructions for my guidance in such a crisis, which might materially injure our interest and influence in this Government

11 Indebted indeed as Meer Allum is so well known to be to the British Influence for his elevation the necessity of his support from the same quarter would seem to follow as a matter of course, even if Your Excellency's instructions did not authorize its exertion in his behalf, and I shall accordingly deem it indispensably incumbent on me to act up to this principle to its fullest extent if absolutely necessary, unless honoured in the interim by fresh instructions from Your Excellency for my guidance

12 The communications which my Moonshy made to Minister respecting the arrest at Poonah of Anand Rao formerly residing there as a Public Agent on the part of this Durbar was in consequence of an intimation to the above effect lately conveyed to me by Captain Sydenham

13 The expectation which Meer Allum in the enclosed report ascribes to Raja Ragotim Rao of an early return to power evidently proceeds from that fear and jealousy towards the Raja so repeatedly evinced in various shapes and sufficiently evident from what is stated in the concluding paragraph (13) of my last address, my information however from various quarters concerns in describing that intriguing ex-Minister as busily employed in machinations for his own recall

14 I beg leave to acquaint Your Excellency that the Hircarrah's whom I sent to Kulburgah to ascertain the truth of the representations

sometime since made to me by this Durbar on the subject of a body of Mahratta Horse under the Peshwa's Commander Goklah said to be ravaging that province returned the day before yesterday and confirmed in every respect the truth of the above representations with the addition that this body of Mahrattas Cavalry had at length recrossed the river Bhema and retired within His Highness the Peshwa's territories in consequence of the successful opposition which they met with from the troops of this Government stationed in the Kulbargali quarter

Translation of Moonshy Uzee Oollah's report of his conferences with Meer Allum on the 8th of June 1805

After the usual friendly enquiries Meer Allum asked me what you (Colonel K) had said in reply to the proposed reduction of a thousand in the number of the intended Silledar Cavalry I answered that in obedience to your directions I had repeatedly stated to him (Meer Allum) that the determination of His Highness whatever it might be whether to reduce the number of the Silledar Cavalry to nine thousand or to consent to the first proposed complement of ten thousand whether to approve or to reject the plan altogether could not be otherwise than agreeable to you That in suggesting this plan to His Highness the British Government had no particular views of interest to itself and that His Highness was perfectly at liberty to accept or to suppress it But that the adoption of such plan must prove so extremely beneficial to His Highness's affairs that you (Colonel K) could not but think the consideration of a trifling addition to the expense ought not to prevent its complete establishment and that the efficiency of the plan would no doubt be materially affected by any reduction of its numbers since it was evident as you had particularly directed me to observe that an establishment of ten thousand cavalry was the least possible number requisite to insure nine thousand being forth coming when required The Meer said the expense would be enormous I answered that he (Meer Allum) had frequently told me there was a large body of Silledar Cavalry already in the pay of His Highness that to give effect to the plan it was merely necessary to reorganize them and that no great increase of expense could well therefore be incurred on the occasion The Meer hereupon observed that the present plan provided for the monthly payment of the horsemen and that it was not customary to pay those that were already in the service of His Highness in so regular a manner to which I replied that tardy and irregular as the present mode of payment might be it still came to the same thing in the end as all troops must be paid sooner or later

Meer Allum then desired me to inform you that at the suggestion, as he suspected of Ismail Yar Jung His Highness had lately proposed that the Silledar Cavalry should be reduced in time of Peace and that he had represented to His Highness in reply that the proposed establishment of Silledar Cavalry was intended to be permanent and that as occasional reduction would render the plan altogether nugatory On this I observed in obedience to your express direction that any further delay would afford opportunities for similar objections on the part of His Highness and that if His Highness therefore seriously intended to agree to the proposal the sooner he delivered the requisite letters to the Governor General the better

Speaking next of the likeliness of His Highness's disposition Meer Allum said it had lately been very generally reported that His Highness proposed to become one of the Gheyr Mehdy Sect and was desirous of taking away the life of three or four persons That although he considered this report to be an idle fabrication he had contrived to represent to His Highness at the Durbar that it was rumoured that His Highness was about to embrace the Gheyr Mehdy Tenets and that since the day on which His Highness had discussed the Silledar Plan with him at the Durbar

His Highness's mind appeared to be irritated and that strange reports had in consequence been fabricated. That as the world was much addicted to calumny and falsehood he had been induced to request that if any one should represent anything to his (Meer Allum's) disadvantage, His Highness would be pleased to convey to him an immediate intimation of the circumstance to enable him to offer satisfactory explanations. To this Meer Allum said to me His Highness had replied he would do as he desired and that with respect to the Silledar Plan he had unreservedly communicated to him the sentiments that he entertained.

I asked Meer Allum if he thought there was any truth in the report that His Highness was desirous to effect the murder of three or four persons, Meer Allum replied that it had been communicated to him by Ghalibood Dowlah, the Darogah of Hircarrahs, whose information however he conceived was not entitled to much credit and that he therefore considered the report as a fabrication. Under such disbelief I observed, the Meer's mind was no doubt perfectly at ease on the subject. The Meer said that it was, but that he was quite perplexed and harrassed by the opposition of His Highness on every occasion whether important or trivial and that His Highness disputed the adoption of every plan and every measure. I asked Meer Allum from what cause this could proceed. He replied that the disposition of His Highness was naturally feeble and lugious and his capacity extremely contracted and that His Highness again entertained fresh suspicions against the British Government which unless they could be supposed to have arisen spontaneously in his mind, must have been instilled by some person or other. I observed that to remove suspicions of so unfounded a nature would, I conceived, be an object of easy attainment to a person of his (Meer Allum's) skill, penetration and judgment and that it certainly ought to be attempted. The Meer replied that as he was indebted to the British Government for everything that he enjoyed and as His Highness possessed no power of discrimination he would be too apt to impute all his representations on the subject to interested and selfish motives and that certain delicate considerations withheld him from speaking to His Highness in the unreserved manner which perhaps he ought to do. I asked the Minister to what he alluded, when he replied that if he could fully rely on your (Colonel K.) support and protection he would in one or two audiences open the eyes of His Highness and restore him to the right way. On this I observed that if he (Meer Allum) applied to you for your support on this occasion I had no doubt that you would be induced to comply with his wishes upon which he said the fact was, that he stood in a most delicate and critical situation and that he had endeavoured hitherto to go on as well as possible, but that if he now attempted by due representations to His Highness to appease His Highness's unfounded suspicions and to put a stop to his constant objections and His Highness were in consequence to be exasperated and form any dangerous plan against him, he trusted you would not profess to consider the affair as of a domestic nature and leave him without support. I told the Meer Allum that I should of course report to you all that he had said and that if at your next meeting he should think proper to repeat to you the communications that he had made to me I had no doubt that your reply would be such as to inspire him with sufficient confidence.

I then asked Meer Allum if he conceived it possible that any danger might be apprehended from the suspicion which he described His Highness as entertaining against the British Government to which the Meer replied that the only danger which he conceived was immediately to be apprehended from such suspicion was that His Highness would oppose without any just reason the adoption of every plan and every measure that might be suggested to him but that not being possessed of an insight into futurity he could not pretend to say what might hereafter come to pass.

The above conversation being here concluded, I informed Meer Allum in obedience to your directions that some paper belonging to Anand Rao formerly a news writer at Poona had lately been interrupted by which it appeared that he was concerned in a clandestine correspondence with Jeshwant Rao Holkar and certain other persons and that His Highness the Peshwa had, therefore caused the person of Anand Rao to be placed under restraint. To this the Meer made no reply.

Meer Allum then spoke of the arrival of Krishnajeo Munkajeo from Poona and desired me to inform you that that agent had stated to him that he would be appointed Vakeel on the part of the Peshwa at Hyderabad provided Meer Allum would extend to him his countenance and friendship, that Ram Rao the former Vakeel had been recalled to Poona but that Rani Rao was connected with Raja Ragotim Rao he had consulted the Raja who had advised him to suspend his departure for two or three months until it should be seen what were the intentions of providence, that Rani Rao was therefore averse from returning to Poona and that Krishnajeo Mankeyseer requested that Meer Allum would confirm the orders which Ram Rao had received to leave Hyderabad.

Meer Allum then told me that on the occasion of his last audience His Highness had observed to him in the way of a friendly complaint that no adjustment had yet been made of the differences between His Highness's Government and that of Poona and particularly of the question of Choute which the British Government was bound to arbitrate on the basis of the Treaty of Mnar, and that he had represented in reply to His Highness that the delay of which His Highness complained had proceeded from the unsettled nature of the times. I observed to Meer Allum that various circumstances and among others the late war with the considered Mahratta Chieftains had no doubt concurred to delay the arbitration of which His Highness was desirous but that I had repeatedly heard you (Colonel K) say that in due time and season His Excellency the Most Noble the Governor General would direct his attention to a satisfactory adjustment of all the differences that existed between this Court and that of Poona. Shortly after I arose and withdrew.

A true translation and copy

HENERY RUSSELL

Letter No 6—This is an important letter that reveals the state of mind of the Nizam in general. The Resident observes that the Nizam was averse to the scheme of Sillidar Establishment and that Meer Allum was not very keen on safeguarding or advancing the British interests in Hyderabad. The Nizam was suffering from slight mental derangements verging on insanity and even meditated schemes for assassinating the Resident and Meer Allum. The enclosure elucidates these points and is also important.

FROM—COLONEL KIRKPATRICK RESIDENT AT HYDERABAD

TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL

Hyderabad the 7th July 1805

As advised in my last address No 39 I waited on His Highness the Serahdar on the 7th instant in the forenoon accompanied by the members of my family and was received as usual by the Prime Minister and his attendants with whom I remained a short time in conversation. until a message was brought that His Highness was ready to receive me in an inner apartment, whither we all accordingly proceeded when after

the customary salutation had passed between His Highness and myself, we took our seats and commenced a desultory conversation which lasted until, for the sake of greater privacy the principal attendants (among whom was the Paigah Chieftains and Shah Yar Ood Dowlah) were directed to retire to some distance.

2 A gloomy reserve and embarrassment which was strongly depicted in His Highness's countenance and manners from my first entrance, became now visibly increased, so that the object of my visit might perhaps have been frustrated, had I not myself broken the silence, which His Highness seemed inclined to preserve, by a few introductory observations of a consiliatory nature, from which by an easy and natural transition I gradually proceeded to the subject of the Silledar negotiation, which I assured His Highness (and for the truth of my assurances repeatedly appealed to the Prime Minister) had been brought forward solely with a view to the prosperity and welfare of his own Government

3. Here, My Lord, for the purpose among others of eradicating the unfounded notion ascribed by Meer Allum to Secunder Jah of the above propositions, having been brought forward by me of my own accord and without due authority, I entered into some detail of the cause and origin of the present negotiation, which I attributed to the representations which Sir Arthur Wellesley moved thereto by his zeal for the welfare of this Government and by his long experience of the urgent necessity of some such measure had made (as I have reason to believe) in person to Your Excellency during his last visit to the seat of Supreme Government, and which had induced Your Excellency to furnish me with the instructions, on which the propositions in question were founded.

4 The above explanation being concluded I proceeded to express my regret that after these propositions had apparently met with His Highness's almost unreserved acquiescence, they should now be at a stand on a point which if conceded on my part would render the whole arrangement perfectly useless and unavailing and that if His Highness, therefore had unsurmountable objections to the clause in the engagement, which provided for the regular monthly payment of the proposed Silledar Party, it would only remain for me to communicate such objections to Your Excellency and to await Your Excellency's further instructions for my guidance on the occasion

5 I have paused for a considerable time in expectation of some answer either directly from His Highness himself or through the medium of his Prime Minister, but neither of them seeming able or inclined to offer any reply I again respectfully entreated His Highness to favour me with his determination on the point now referred to him, that I might be thereby enabled to furnish Your Excellency with some ground to judge of the expediency of renewing or dropping the negotiation altogether

6 Thus addressed His Highness in a low tone of voice and with a confused incoherent delivery, at length, recapitulated some of the objections which he had started in the course of the negotiations and concluded (as far as I could collect from his discourse) by observing, that he always had fulfilled and should continue to fulfill the engagements to which he was bound by Treaty that his resources were not equal to the proposed Silledar Establishment and that he did not wish therefore to pledge himself to what it was not in his power to execute but that I might rely on the nine thousand cavalry and proportionate body of infantry which constituted his contingent, being regularly forthcoming

7 As this Government notwithstanding my repeated rectification of the error still affects to consider its defensive engagements as strictly limited to the quota which it is bound to furnish at the very outset of a War by the 12th Article of the Treaty of Hyderabad, I thought the present fit occasion to set this point in its proper light and after disposing therefore of the previous question by informing His Highness that I should communicate his answer to Your Excellency without delay I proceeded to observe that a reference to the said 12th Article of the above Treaty would show that the exertions which this State is bound to make in time of War were by no means limited to any particular number of troops or to any specific expenditure of money but were both to be extended in case of need to the very utmost bounds of its means and its revenues. That this was not a forced but literal meaning of the Treaty in question the whole tenor and object of which most obviously and unquestionably was mutual defence on the part of the contracting powers to the very utmost of their respective means against the common foe. That on the due fulfilment of this stipulation depended His Highness's right to an equal participation in eventual conquests and that it might fairly be expected in any eventual warfare that the scale of His Highness's military exertions would be in a proportion on magnitude to his well known pecuniary resources.

8 The above position (the correctness of which could not well in deed have been disputed) was virtually admitted by the Minister's observing in reply that in addition to His Highness's Contingent a body of some thousand cavalry and infantry was employed in another direction to repelling the inroads of a body of Freebooters who acted under the name of Ishwart Rao Holkar.

9 The conversation after this took a more general turn and in the course of it His Highness gradually unheent some what more than he had done during the former part of my audience which was altogether however conducted in an ungracious manner and terminated towards the evening with the usual ceremony of the Paun at parting.

10 Unwilling to trespass too far on Your Excellency's time and attention by the numerous reflexions which the conduct of this court throughout the whole of the late negotiations has excited in my mind I shall confine myself to observing that much as its failure is to be regretted on the ground of its own merits it is still more perhaps to be lamented from the diminution of public influence and credit with which it can scarcely fail I fear of being attended especially under a Prince whose weak and perverted judgment will lead him to consider and proclaim the failure as the result of his own superior policy and persevering opposition.

11 The part which the Minister bore in the above conference did not I am sorry to say confirm the hopes which his previous repeated declarations and assurances had led me to entertain of his zealous co-operation for the success of the negotiation entrusted to my charge. My reiterated endeavours in the course of the conference to draw from him the opinions and sentiments which he had so often previously professed to entertain with respect to the expediency of a compliance with my propositions almost entirely failed of success and if the lukewarm disposition which he evinced on the occasion were to be taken as a criterion the correctness of his own previous statements of the endeavours which he had exerted for the promotion of the object in view might well be called in question.

12 Not thinking it right My Lord, that the unusual demeanour of His Highness at my late audience should pass altogether unnoticed I signified to the Minister my wish of sending my Moonshy as early as possible to make certain communications to him and the 9th being fixed

on for the purpose Uzeez Oollah accordingly waited on him, and I have herewith the honour to enclose for Your Excellency's notice translation of his report of what passed between Meer Allum and him at this visit

13 The explanation afforded by the Minister in this document of the pretended pause of His Highness's sudden gloom and reserve at my late audience, though not perhaps very wide of the truth, does not altogether in my opinion satisfactorily explain some of the symptoms of uneasiness betrayed by His Highness at the audience in question. The melancholy facts of His Highness's occasional mental derangement is of too general notoriety to be reasonably questioned, but as these occasional derangements are not of a very late date, their effects would most probably have been exhibited in a similar way at some former period of my intercourse with His Highness, if his gloom and reserve had proceeded from such cause alone

14 I am, therefore, reluctantly left to conclude, that the secret indisposition against the British Government which the Minister has heretofore unequivocally ascribed to Secunder Jah (and which I wish he may not himself have in some measure formented) has still a deep root in his mind, a conclusion which the whole tenor of my secret intelligence from various authentic quarters tends greatly to confirm, and which is still further corroborated by the intimation (if it can be relied upon) as given in the accompanying report by Mooneerool Moolk to my Moonshy relative to the body of armed men which His Highness is affirmed by the former to have secreted in the interior of his palace and by the designs which he is charged with harbouring against both my life and that of the Prime Minister

15 The truth of the former of these charges, *viz*, his secreting a body of armed men in his palace it shall be my endeavour to have established or rejected, and with regard to the latter I could offer little in the way of reflexion to what I have already submitted on a similar subject in the 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th paragraphs of my address No 368 of the 22nd ultimo

16 I am fully aware, My Lord, that the occasional insanity of Secunder Jah besides being perhaps somewhat exaggerated in its effects, may be and I incline to think is used as a convenient pretext by the Minister and his friends to excuse his own inefficient exertions (to say no more) in cases where our interests are materially concerned, and to pave the way if possible to his own further exaltation considerations My Lord, which would have induced me to avoid troubling Your Excellency as far as possible with the unpleasant details on the foregoing subject, contained both in the present and in some former enclosures, were it not possible after all that subsequent events might not justify the above conclusion

17 The order which I applied for and have been promised for surrounding the town of Umraoty with a wall as Your Excellency may probably recollect, in compliance with a suggestion made to me some time since by Colonel Close, this order the Minister assures me through Meer Abdool Luttee has since been actually dispatched to Raia Mahipat Ram

18 A somewhat severe indisposition, with which I have been visited for some days past, will I trust prove my apology for the delay which has occurred in the present despatch

Translation of Moonshy Uzeez Oollah's report of his conference with Meer Allum on the 9th of July 1806

After the usual friendly enquiries I observed to the minister in obedience to your (Colonel K's) express directions that after his repeated assurances of having dispelled the unfounded suspicions which His Highness (by his account) entertained against the British Government, you were much

surprised to observe at your audience of the 7th Instant that the countenance of His Highness bore evident marks of uneasiness and dissatisfaction and that you were therefore apprehensive that the endeavours of Meer Allum had not been efficacious. Meer Allum replied that the appearances which you had remarked in the countenance of His Highness were indicative of the disorder of His Highness's mind but certainly not of uneasiness or dissatisfaction. That of late His Highness's manner and conduct had been nearly similar in his Mahal where without any apparent cause he sometimes preserved an obstinate silence sometimes laughed aloud and sometimes shed tears. I hereupon observed that much as I was certain you would lament the disorder of His Highness's intellect you would nevertheless be glad to find that the gloomy appearance assumed by His Highness at your late visit was not owing to the cause which you had erroneously supposed and that you were well persuaded moreover that if any well grounded uneasiness or dissatisfaction had really entered the mind of His Highness the Meer would unreservedly have communicated it to you. Meer Allum hereupon desired me to assure you that in such persuasion you did him only justice for that if he were at any hour of the night even to receive intimation of any circumstance that could be productive of the least injury to the political affairs of the State or of any interruption of the political affairs of the State or of any interruption of the personal attachment between His Highness and you he should immediately report it to you. That on this subject you might be perfectly at ease but that in the present instance of a disorder of His Highness's intellect nothing could be done by him. That God alone could remedy the evil.

The above subject being here concluded I reminded Meer Allum of the promise he had given you to sanction the construction of a wall round the town of Amrut. Meer Allum immediately sent for Ishmail Yar Jung and directed him to prepare a draft of the necessary order both from His Highness and from himself to Raja Mahiput Ram.

In obedience to your directions I next observed to Meer Allum that at my last visit Kishnajee Maunkeysur had said that His Highness the Paishwah would adopt such measures towards Anand Rao as might be recommended by Meer Allum and the British Resident. I told the Meer that I had reported this to you and that you had desired me to request that Meer Allum would convey to Kishnajee Maunkeysur such suggestions with regard to the treatment of Anand Rao as he might think advisable. To this the Meer replied that as Anand Rao was not connected in any way with the Government of His Highness the Soobahdar he conceived it would be most proper to leave the mode and extent of his punishment entirely to the discretion of the Peshwa.

I next observed to Meer Allum in compliance with the request which Kishnajee Maunkeysur conveyed to you (Col. K.) that as a large balance was due to His Highness the Peshwa on account of the Choute of Beer the two lacs which had been lately advanced on Anand Dessy's order might be deducted from that balance and the districts of Pevun and Puralindah be restored to the Peshwa's Officers. Meer Allum answered that he was entirely unacquainted with the nature of the balance to which Kishnajee Maunkeysur alluded but that he would address Raja Mahiput Ram on the subject and that if the two lacs of rupees could be recovered from the Choute that was due on account of the district of Beer there could be no objection to the arrangement which Kishnajee Maunkeysur had proposed.

Meer Allum then delivered to me for your perusal a letter from Raja Mahiput Ram and desired me to inform you that on the plea of the intended cantonment of the Army during the rainy season, the Raja had

applied to him for leave either to come to Hyderabad or to send for his family to join him in the field. On this subject the Meer said he was desirous to obtain your opinion. I replied that you had observed on a former occasion, that if the absence of Mahipat Ram from the Army would not be productive of any inconvenience either in the payment or discipline of the troops, you conceived there could be no objection to his coming to Hyderabad for a short time, but that otherwise, he ought not to be permitted to leave the Army. Meer Allum said that unless Mahipat Ram were with the Army he (Meer Allum) could not be satisfied either of the regular payment or proper discipline of the troops, and that he should therefore send the Raja's family to join him.

After I had taken my leave of Meer Allum, I remained sometime in conversation with Mooneerool Moolk who told me he had heard from Juhan Purwar Begum (Secunder Jah's wife, and the niece of Mooneerool Moolk) that after you (Col Kirkpatrick) had left the palace on the 7th instant, His Highness had retired into his Mahal and had observed in a vaunting tone, that he had at length accomplished the object of his wishes, and had prevented them (meaning the English) from effecting what they had intended that he had so firmly adhered to his own resolution, that whatever had been attempted, he never would have consented to the measure. Mooneerool Moolk said that the derangement of His Highness's intellect now constantly led him into the most extraordinary and unaccountable actions. That for instance while His Highness was seated among the ladies of his Mahal, he sometimes suddenly without any apparent cause kicked both Juhan Purwar Begum and Chandnee Begum, and that he sometimes tied handkerchief's round the necks of some of his females, and suspended them until they were nearly dead.

Mooneerool Moolk also told me that His Highness had directed Mooneer Ooddin Khan to post in the Khilwat of the palace, a party of his own men completely armed and supplied with guns and ammunition and double in number to the guard of the Company's Sepoys that was always on duty at the Palace. That there were proofs of a degree of insanity by which unless it could be corrected by bleeding or by the application of other remedies there was no saying into what excesses His Highness might not be betrayed, nor in what distress as he might not involve his Government. He said Juhan Purwar Begum had been induced by her regard for you (Col Kirkpatrick) to observe, that you were frequently in the habit of resting out slightly attended, that some precaution ought now to be adopted and that you ought to increase the number of your attendants.

To this I replied with a smile, that I was sure you would be much gratified by the interest which Juhan Purwar Begum had the goodness to take in your safety, but that I trusted the uneasiness which the Begum felt was, in the present instance, unnecessary.

Mooneer Ool Moolk told me that he had also heard from Juhan Purwar Begum that His Highness had observed in the Mahal, that when Hyder Jung was put to death Mr Bussy and his party had retired, that His Highness would put Meer Allum to death and that the English would then follow the example of Mr Bussy. Mooneerool Moolk concluded the conversation by telling me that His Highness frequently betrayed his insanity by such conduct and expression as those which he had related to me and shortly after I arose and withdrew.

Letter No 7—This letter which is enclosure No 1 to the letter of Kirkpatrick to Elphinstone, throws light on two important facts—

- (1) How the Nizam and his Minister were trying to quash the Resident's proposal for establishing a Silladar Contingent
- (2) How Meer Allum wanted the Resident to help him exercise the entire powers of the Nizam

For this enclosures 3 and 4 are important

FROM—J A KIRKPATRICK RESIDENT AT HYDRABAD

TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL PORT WILLIAM

Hyderabad, the 20th July 1805

Since my last address No 370 my Moonshy paid the Minister his weekly visit at which some interesting conversation having occurred I beg leave to enclose my Moonshy's report (No 1) of the same in a translated form for Your Excellency's notice

2 The application which I have made (as noticed in the enclosed report) for the stationing of ferry boats at the Dunoor Ghaut on the River Kistna was at the particular recommendation of the Commander in Chief at Fort St George

3 The Minister's complaint of Secunder Jah's disposition and conduct have now become so hackneyed and the remarks which I have frequently had occasion to make thereon so nearly exhausted that I should willingly confirm myself on the present and on most future occasions to simply reporting them in Meer Allum's own words were there not at this moment indications of matters approaching towards a crisis between the Subbadhar and his Minister

4 Under the possibility therefore of the above surmise being verified by the event it becomes my duty to assist Your Excellency's judgment with such observations as my local situation and long conversancy with the views and dispositions of the leading characters at this Durbar may be supposed to supply

5 To effect this purpose it can only be necessary to offer a few elucidatory remarks on the circumstances reported in the enclosed documents as the whole tenor of my Public and Private despatches for these last two years must I venture to think we have furnished Your Excellency with sufficient data to enable Your Excellency to form your own opinion and draw your own conclusion on the character conduct and views of both the Subbadhar and his Minister

6 Under this impression I shall content myself with observing that though there are I fear but too good grounds for Meer Allum's complaints of Secunder Jah's weakness obstinacy and indisposition these defects are I suspect rather subjects of secret joy than regret to the Prime Minister from their opening to him as he fondly imagines a prospect of obtaining sooner or later the full powers which Secunder Jah was to reluctantly prevail on by our intermediation, to restore to the late Auzim Ool Omrah and which are now the undisguised object of Meer Allum's ambitious aim

7 But even granting for a moment that Your Excellency should actually be disposed to second the Minister's views in the foregoing instance the obstacle to an undertaking would be found to have greatly increased since the former attempt while the advantages that would result from a second successful exertion of our influence for a similar purpose would at the best be in my opinion extremely doubtful and precarious

8 Allusion being made in the body of my Moonshy's report, to a letter lately addressed by His Highness the Soobah to Raja Mahipat Ram, on the subject of the late Silledar negotiations, I beg leave to enclose for Your Excellency's notice, a translation of the same (No 2) as communicated to me by this Government. What the Soobah or the Minister's object can be in addressing a letter on such a subject to Raja Mahipat Ram, I am rather at a loss to conjecture, unless indeed, it be intended to convey thereby a hint, that this Government is aware of the necessity of some such establishment the one lately recommended, though averse to forming it at our suggestion or liable to any respect, to our contract. With the excessive penury, however, universally attributed to Secunder Jah, the wish which he therein expresses for raising a body of good cavalry, on an efficient establishment can scarcely be considered in any other light than that of an empty, unmeaning declaration.

9 My Moonshy's application to the Minister for the renewal of his personal attendance on the Soobah, as noticed in his enclosed report (No 1) required that I should observe, that such occasional attendance on His Highness on the part of the Residency itself, though suspended by me for some time past in difference to the secret wish of Meer Allum who could not now however, with the smallest propriety have objected to the renewal of such direct intercourse with His Highness, the urgent necessity of which is sufficiently established, not only by the tenor of his own declarations and avowals, but by secret communications of a still more serious nature that have lately reached me from various quarters.

10 If any doubt still existed My Lord, of the towering views of the Prime Minister or of the crooked means to which he resorts for the purpose of deceiving alternately the Soobah and myself in order to render each of us in our turn instrument to their attainment, such doubt must I venture to think be effectually cleared up by the contents of the enclosure (No 3) in which as Your Excellency will perceive, the Minister unreservedly proposed to render me subservient to a most unbecoming and unwarrantable artifice, which he wishes to play off upon the Soobah, for the avowed purpose of obtaining possession of the full powers, which he has so long coveted, while he is described in the same breath by Meer Abdul Lutteef as congratulating the Soobah on the successful issue of His Highness's applauded opposition to the very plan, which Meer Allum praised himself so highly in the course of the negotiation upon having strongly recommended to His Highness's acceptance. The message conveyed to me by the Prime Minister through Abdul Lateef as stated in this enclosure being of a very delicate and important nature, I requested that Abdul Lateef would deliver it in writing, which he accordingly did, authenticated by his signature. The declaration concerning the Silledar Plan ascribed in this enclosure by Meer Abdul Latif to the Prime Minister, was taken down from his own words as delivered in my presence.

11 It was my wish My Lord to have given such an immediate and decisive answer to the extraordinary message thus conveyed to me by the Prime Minister, as effectually to quash every hope of making me a party to the miserable plan, which it communicated, but this Meer Abdul Lateef seemed desirous of preventing by an abrupt departure, accompanied by an intimation that Meer Allum would wait upon me himself on the day following to ascertain in person the result of his proposition.

12 Accordingly the Minister punctual to his engagements came yesterday forenoon from the place where His Highness is now on a hunting excursion, a few miles from this city, to the Residency accompanied by Mooneer Ool Moolk and Abdul Latif and after a long previous conversation on various familiar topics, came to the point by asking me for my opinion and advice on the proposition, which he had conveyed to me on the preceding day through Meer Abdul Latif.

13 Before I replied to this question I requested Meer Abdul Latif for the sake of greater accuracy to recapitulate the message, with which he had been charged which he accordingly did without any deviation, and Meer Allum having assented to its correctness I proceeded to observe that I should be deficient in that frankness and candour for which the Minister had so often been pleased to give me credit were I to hesitate in expressing my most unqualified disapprobation of the scheme I observed no less pregnant with danger and disgrace than irreconcilable from its clanciestine nature alone to those principles of rectitude and plain dealing which were held by the Government I had the honour to represent in all its transactions whether foreign or domestic

14 I conjured the Minister never on any consideration even to think so imprudent and dangerous a measure and by way of more effectually deterring from its adoption, I assured him that it would in all human probability effectually preclude him from the benefit of that support on the part of the British Government which he had hitherto so liberally experienced and which I offered to exert on all suitable occasions in his behalf in any way but the discreditable one which he had now for the first time suggested

15 In a word My Lord I felt no argument untried to divert the Minister from his present weak and dangerous scheme and am willing to hope not without success as he assured me in reply (though not without evident marks of dejection and disappointment) that my arguments had convinced him that it never had been his intention to retire even in appearance from his station except in the very last extremity and that as the plan did not meet with my concurrence he should rest satisfied under every occurrence with the benefit derivable from my proffered support and countenance

16 I will not here intrude upon Your Excellency's time by an irksome repetition of the invectives on the usual grounds in which the Minister freely indulged at the expence of his master but which even admitting ever so fully of their justice it would by no means have become to appear to acquiesce in and therefore (as I have done upon every former similar occasion) rather palliated His Highness's faults and his conduct which imputed chiefly to inexperience wrong education and defective information

17 After a visit of a very long duration the Minister and his party took leave of me to return to the Soobah's Camp near Surrom Nuggur

18 I take this opportunity to acquaint Your Excellency that I received on the 14th instant a visit of ceremony from His Highness the Peshwa's envoy to this Durbar Kishnaje Maunkeysur at which little if any thing passed beyond the interchange of compliments usual on such occasions accompanied by an intimation of his having been directed by his court to apply to me for assistance in whatever propositions of public nature he had to agitate with this Government and which I readily engaged to afford as far as might be suitable or proper as instanced in the case noticed in my Moonshy's accompanying report

19 I have the honour to enclose for Your Excellency's notice copy (No 4) of my latest letter under date the 16th instant to the Resident at Poona

*Translation of Moonshy Aziz Oollah's report of his Conference
with Meer Allum on the 16th of July 1805*

After the usual friendly enquiries I informed Meer Allum in obedience to your (Col K.'s) directions that all convoys and detachments which might hereafter march from the Company's territories to join the Army in

advance, would proceed by the route of Belhary, and that it would therefore be necessary to collect boats at the Duroor Ghaut, which was at the confluence of the Mulpurbah and Kistna Rivers, and at the distance of about two coss from the Fort of Moodgul Meer Allum replied that orders should be sent to the officer, who is stationed on the part of this Government, with a number of boats at the Cala Chabootra Ghaut directing him to proceed with the boats under his charge, to the Duroor Ghaut

Meer Allum then observed in a tone of complaint, that the affairs of the Government both political and domestic were materially impeded by the ignorance of His Highness That the success of all officers was most effectually ensured by either the hope of reward or the fear of punishment, but that under the present system neither crimes were punished nor meritorious services rewarded That persons of all ranks therefore placed no dependence on His Highness, and that God only knew what would be the consequence, if people did not in some respect look up to the Ministers That Zeeah Ool Moolk (The Soobah's Arzee Beggy) had lately taken an opportunity of calling on him and of observing with expressions of deep regret, that the universal derangement of affairs afforded but little prospect of the permanance of His Highness's Government.

I asked Meer Allum, if, in speaking of the derangement of affairs he alluded merely to those of a domestic and internal nature or to those of political importance, and observed that if the latter were the case, I humbly conceived it to be (Meer Allum's) indispensable duty to make a full and unreserved communication to you and enable you to afford him your support in applying some remedy to the evil of which he complained

Meer Allum said that he did not apprehend any immediate danger to political affairs but that he was perpetually harrassed by the levity and obstinacy of His Highness, on every occasion of an internal or domestic nature I answered that I was strongly inclined to apprehend that this conduct on the part of His Highness, was as the Meer himself had already observed, the effect of that flattery, which had been so copiously administered to him

Meer Allum then said it has an extraordinary fact that the Enayet-namah which had lately been addressed to Raja Mahipat Ram on the conclusion of the negociation for the Silledar Cavalry, and of which a copy had been communicated to you, had contrary to universal practice been closed by His Highness, in the presence of Ismail Yar Jung only, that he was therefore induced to apprehend that as His Highness had expressed an opinion that every proposal that was made to him by Col Kirkpatrick originated in himself, and had avowed an intention of opening a direct channel of communication with the British Government, His Highness might in that letter have authorized Mahipat Ram to make Col Haliburton the medium of any secret intimations that His Highness might be desirous to convey To this I replied that all clandestine intercourse was irreconcilable with the practice of the British Government but that if the Meer's suspicion should actually prove to be correct, Col Haliburton would no doubt receive the advances of Raja Mahipat Ram, in such a manner, as to prevent the Raja from ever repeating the attempts and that as no subject had been agitated at Hyderabad without the express sanction and authority of the Governor-General, the Meer might safely dismiss any apprehensions, which might have been produced by his dread of His Highness's establishing a clandestine intercourse through any mediums whatsoever

In obedience to your directions I next observed to Meer Allum, that the visit which I had been accustomed to pay to His Highness had lately been suspended, and that as the only object of those visits was to impress in His Highness's mind a conviction of the intimate friendship between

the two States and of the sincerity of Meer Allum's devotion to His Highness now he opposed to their renewal Meer Allum replied that the late excursions of His Highness into the country were the only cause of the suspension of my visits to His Highness and that they should be renewed immediately on His Highness's return to the city.

Meer Allum then again introduced the subject of Ismail Yar Jung, and told me that he had lately heard from Zeeh Ool Moolk that Ismail Yar Jung had in some degree withdrawn himself from interference in public affairs but that he employed Moneerooddin Khan as his agent and represented through him whatever he thought proper to His Highness. To this I answered that I had understood from general reports that Soory Wunt was the person who was more particularly in the habit of submitting frequent representations to His Highness through the medium of Roop Lall. Meer Allum said that he was thoroughly acquainted with the character of Soory Wunt who was incapable of acting upon properly and one who would not presume to make any representations to His Highness but through the medium of his Ministers and that such proceedings originated in Ismail Yar Jung.

In compliance with a request which was preferred to you by Kistnajeo Mankeysai I proposed to Meer Allum that the Choute collection on account of Beer should be made by this Government until the two lacs of rupees which had been advanced in Appah Desai's order should be recovered and that the collections of Puarandih etc should be relinquished to the officers of the Peshwa. Meer Allum said that he would address Raja Mahipat Ram on the subject and would comply with the proposal of Kistnajeo Mankeshwar if it should appear that the two lacs of rupees could be recovered from the district of Beer.

I concluded the conversation by communicating to Meer Allum the representation which was lately made to you by Capt Sydenham on the subject of Mokassa of Konhurgah claimed by a Mahratta dependant of the Poona Government. Meer Allum replied that he would direct Chundoo Lall to pay the amount to the Vakil for the collection of the Mokassa but that there were several persons such as Sultan Myan and many others who paid no attention to the orders of Government and that without the adoption of some effectual measures it would be impossible to realize from them the amount of the Mokassa.

After I had left Meer Allum Moneerbol Molk told me that of late His Highness had frequently been attended on his hunting parties by only Bolundaz Khan and his brother and that His Highness was in the habit of drinking Saindee while he was out on these excursions.

Shortly after I arose and withdrew.

A true translation

HENRY RUSSELL.

Translation of an Enayatnamah from His Highness the Subahdar to Raja Mahipat Ram communicated to the Resident on 12th July 1805

Colonel Kirkpatrick submitted to me a plan consisting of several articles for the establishment of a Body of ten thousand Silledar Cavalry. I made some alterations in the plan which at the recommendation of Meer Allum was then drawn up in the form of a letter to His Excellency the Most Noble the Governor General. Further amendments were made

and I now enclose to you four copies of the plan in its different stages. At length Colonel Kirkpatrick wrote a note, stating that unless the plan met with my approbation the British Government had no views of interest in proposing it. Col Kirkpatrick himself waited on me, and stated that all his representations to me had been directed to the efficiency of my military establishment, and that if I felt any hesitation at adopting the proposed plan it might be suspended. The plan accordingly was suspended.

It is now the particular object of my wishes to raise a body of good cavalry to be placed in an efficient establishment, and to receive their pay in cash at an advanced rate, the adoption of this measure will be postponed until I shall receive your answer and you will therefore transmit to me a detailed statement on the subject.

An Enayetnamah was addressed on the subject of the Choute and other claims of the Peshwah and another Enayetnamah was subsequently sent to you directing you not to eject the Mokasa of the Peshwa. I now enclose to you a copy of the Arzee which Meer Allum submitted to me on that subject.

A true translation

HENRY RUSSELL

Translation of a message from Meer Allum to the Resident communicated through the medium of Meer Abdool Lutef Khan on the 17th July 1805

Adverting to the nature of the times, and with a view to the successful conduct of affairs, it appears to me advisable that some artifice should be practised toward His Highness. That I should represent to His Highness in a private audience that the frequent obstacles which His Highness opposes and the difficulties which they created made me desirous of being relieved from my office, and of its being conferred on some other person or that His Highness should invest in me supreme authority, after making this representation I will withdraw, i.e., withdraw from the conduct of affairs.

It is most probable that His Highness will then send some person to pacify me, but if four or five days shall elapse without such a measure being adopted the Resident should upon any plea that may appear proper to him, wait on His Highness, and induce His Highness to recall me, and to tell me that he has bestowed upon me full powers, and that in future he will unvariably act by my advice.

Then Abdool Lateef Khan observed in the course of conversation that happening to ask Meer Allum what he had represented to His Highness, when the negotiation for the Silledar Establishment had been concluded, Meer Allum replied, that he had represented to His Highness, that His Highness's good fortune could only be compared to that of Alexander in having successfully opposed the Silledar Plan.

A true translation and copy

CHARLES RUSSELL.

Letter No 8—In this letter Lt Cnl Kirkpatrick informs the Governor General what transpired at his two interviews with the Nizam previous to his departure for Calcutta. The Nizam put forward a proposal for mediation by the Company between his Government and that of the Peshwa regarding the payment of Chauth claimed by the latter. The mediation was desired according to the treaties of Hyderabad and Busseln. The enclosure No 2 is therefore important.

FROM—J A KIRKPATRICK RESIDENT AT HYDERABAD
To—MARQUIS CORNWALLIS GOVERNOR GENERAL

Hyderabad the 27th August 1805

1 The 21th instant having been fixed upon for the delivery of Your Lordship's letter to His Highness the Nizam I proceeded to the Durbar in the morning of that day accompanied by my assistants and the other members of my family and was received according to custom by the Prime Minister and the usual officers in waiting.

2 After a certain time had passed in general conversation our attendance was required in an inner apartment whither we accordingly repaired and where after the customary salutations had taken place I delivered to His Highness Your Lordship's letter which was opened and read aloud by the Prime Minister and led to numerous enquiries on the part both of the one and the other concerning Your Lordship's health and welfare accompanied by the expression of their joy on the return to the conduct of affairs in India of a nobleman no less (as they declare) endeared to them by the ties of personal friendship and acquaintance than revered for the wisdom and justice that distinguished his former administration.

3 His Highness expressing a desire to know whether a report which had reached him of Your Lordship's intended immediate journey up the country was true I confirmed its truth and added that Your Lordship's great object in such proceeding was to bring with more facility the question of Peace or War with the Mahratta Confederates to an early issue. That Your Lordship's well known disposition was a sufficient pledge of your decided preference to the former alternative if attainable on sincere and honourable terms while your military skill experience and renown left little doubt of a successful issue if the latter should be found inevitable.

4 In the foregoing positions His Highness and the Minister declared their unreserved assent expressing at the same time a hope if not even a persuasion that Peace from Your Lordship's hands was a boon which never could be rejected.

5 The above having passed I proceeded to inform His Highness that my health having as he will know been for sometime past on the decline and requiring a temporary change of scene and climate I had obtained Your Lordship's permission to leave my station for a while and proceed to Bengal to pay my respects to Your Lordship in person. That painful as even a temporary separation from His Highness would prove to me after having enjoyed for so many years the honour of his society and confidence it was some alleviation to think that I might if entrusted with his wishes and commands render even my absence conducive to his advantage.

6 In reply to this address His Highness was pleased to express himself in terms highly flattering and appeared indeed desirous that I should postpone if I could not relinquish altogether my intended departure but upon my assuring him that my health independent of the considerations

13 In the course of another day or two I am to pay my farewell visit to the Minister and as my first assistant Mr Henry Russell is now perfectly recovered from his late indisposition I propose leaving this by Dawk for Madras on the 1st instant after making over charge to the above gentleman in whose judgment discretion and ability I am happy to assure Your Lordship that I repose the fullest confidence

14 I have the honour to acquaint Your Lordship that H M 33rd Regiment continued their march from hence towards the frontier on the 20th instant and that a Battalion of the 15th Native Regiment from the northern circars will march into Cantonment tomorrow and relieve a Battalion of the 6th Regiment Native Infantry which will proceed in a few days to Illore

15 I have the honour to enclose for Your Lordship a notice copy (No 3) of my last letter to the Resident at Poonah and to be

Translation of an Arzee addressed by Lieut Colonel J A Kirkpatrick, Resident at Hyderabad to His Highness the Soubahdar August 25th 1805

His Excellency the Most Honble the Marquis Cornwallis has honoured me by desiring that I will attend him in Bengal, therefore trust that Your Highness will convey to me the communications if Your Highness wishes in order that I may be enabled to evince my attachment to Your Highness by impressing on the mind of the Governor General the objects of Your Highness's desire

Your Highness being pleased to express your regret at my departure I think it necessary to assure Your Highness that my absence from Hyderabad will not be prolonged beyond a short period for His Excellency the Governor General will no doubt be induced by his attachment to Your Highness and by his desire to promote the wishes of Your Highness to permit me to return to Hyderabad as soon as may be practicable

During the time that it may be necessary for me to absent from Hyderabad my first Assistant Mr Russell who is impressed with knowledge of the intimate connection between the two States and who is sincerely devoted to the interests of Your Highness will discharge the functions of the Residency, and Moonshy Uzeez Oollah who is attached to the person of Your Highness and who enjoys my confidence will attend Your Highness weekly and under the direction of Mr Russell will continue to promote the welfare and prosperity of the United States

A true translation

HENRY RUSSELL *First Assistant*

Translation of a paper delivered by His Highness the Soubah to Lieut Colonel J A Kirkpatrick Resident at Hyderabad at his audience of leave of the 26th August 1805 and entitled the wishes of His Highness the Soubahdar

SIR,

The most earnest desire of my mind is that the relations of harmony and friendship between my Government and that of the Hon'ble Company, may be strengthened and confirmed and that the treaties and engagements which subsist between the two States may be rendered firm and

indissoluble that the Hon'ble Company's Government should provide for the defence of my person, dominions, and authority, that the officers of my Government should be improved, and its dignity and honour extended and advanced

Secondly By the treaties of Hyderabad and Bassein, the Hon'ble Company's Government is invested with a right to arbitrate all differences between my Government and that of the Peshwa Let the Hon'ble Company's Government, therefore, insist on the performance of the stipulations of the Treaty of Mhar by the Peshwa and let not any procrastination or delay be practised by the officers of the Peshwa in the execution of this duty Let the settlement be made in such a manner that no detriment or injury may be caused to my dominions by the subjects of the Peshwa on the plea of collecting Choute, and for this let an effectual provision be made in order that my subjects may enjoy, prosperity and ease and the populations of my dominions be increased and let security and happiness be extended to my Army, to the cultivators of my soil, and in short, to all those dependants on my Government who firmly adhere to the obligations of their allegiance and faithfully perform the services that commanded

- A true translation

H^c RUSSELL, *First Assistant*

Letter No. 9.—Henry Russell, the Acting Resident, informs Cornwallis that the scheme of Sillehadar Establishment had been dictated by the need of defence of Nizam's territories in times of war but had been opposed by the Nizam owing to the expenses it involved. As directed by Cornwallis he was prepared to adhere to the principle of avoiding all interference in the internal administration of the Nizam's Government and of leaving him the exercise of independent authority within his dominions But nevertheless he suggests that the removal of the guards of British Sepoys from the Nizam's palace may be effected in a tactful manner and in a more opportune moment at the request of the Nizam himself and not at the initiative of the British.

FROM—HENRY RUSSELL, ACTING RESIDENT AT HYDER-
ABAD,

TO—MARQUIS CORNWALLIS, GOVERNOR-GENERAL

Hyderabad, the 11th September 1805

I have had the honour to receive, through the Secretary in the Political Department, Your Lordship's instructions of the 21st ultimo, addressed to Lieutenant-Colonel Kirkpatrick

2 Your Lordship will have perceived by the latter despatches of Colonel Kirkpatrick, on the subject of the Silledar establishment, that he had conveyed to His Highness the Soobhdar, explanations of the motive by which the British Government was actuated on that occasion, and assurances of its intention to leave to His Highness the unrestrained exercise of an independant authority, within the limits of his own dominions, similar to those, which are enumerated in the despatch to which I have now the honour of replying,

3 In obedience however to the instructions of Your Lordship I shall avail myself of the favourable opportunity that will be afforded to me the delivery of the letters which it is the intention of Your Lordship to address to His Highness to communicate to him Your Lordship's resolution of refraining from any further urgency in the subject of the Silledar Establishment, and to repeat to him the expression of those sentiments with which I have been furnished by the Instructions of Your Lordship and which appear perfectly well calculated to remove from his mind any vestiges of dissatisfaction which may still remain on account of the proposition for the Silledar Establishment

4 But although I entertain no doubt that I shall be completely successful in appeasing the dissatisfaction of His Highness on that particular subject I have little hope that His Highness will ever be prevailed on by any considerations of either interest or duty to acquiesce in the proposed plan of a Silledar Establishment

5 The motive by which His Highness was actuated in voicing an abrupt or positive rejection of that plan unquestionably originated in his reluctance to oppose with vehemence or decision any measure which was recommended to his adoption by the British Government and supported by the influence of the British Power. But his objections to that plan were almost entirely founded on the heavy charges that it involved and although his vanity may have been flattered by the appearance of a successful contest with the ascendancy of the British Power he derived the most important and substantial gratification from the magnitude of the expence which his opposition had enabled him to avoid

6 During the late war against the confederated Marhatta Chieftains the operations of the army under the personal command of the Hon ble Sir Arthur Wellesley were materially impeded by the necessity of protecting the Frontier of His Highness the Soobahdar's dominions, and Colonel Kirkpatrick availed himself of that opportunity to urge to His Highness the indispensable obligation which was imposed on him to provide by the establishment of an efficient military force for the maintenance of internal tranquillity and subordination and for the defence of His Highness's dominions against the inroads of predatory Horse. But since the conclusion of the Treaty of 1798 and more especially since the conclusion of that of 1800 the court of Hyderabad appears to have been impressed with an inaccurate and dangerous opinion that it may repose with confidence and security on the British Government not only to afford its active co-operation in repelling the aggression of external enemies but to preserve the domestic tranquillity of the dominions of His Highness the Soobahdar and this opinion combined with the parsimonious disposition of His Highness has hitherto opposed and still continues to oppose the most powerful obstacle to the establishment of an effective military force under the Government of Hyderabad

7 The weakness of understanding and inconsistency of conduct which His Highness the Soobahdar has almost invariably betrayed render it perhaps unreasonable to deduce an opinion of his real sentiments from the measures that he may have pursued or the expressions that he may have adopted on any particular occasion but the observation which I have been enabled to make on the character of His Highness and the information that I have obtained through the dubious channel of secret intelligence seriously incline me to believe that His Highness has long been impressed with an opinion unfavourable to the reputation of the British Government and with an apprehension that it is the object of the British Government to extend a predominant influence and control over the councils and measures of every State in India

8 The injurious tendency of that opinion, can be corrected only by the firm and steady observance of a resolution to avoid all interference in the internal administration of His Highness's Government, and to leave to him the unrestrained exercise of an independent authority, within the limits of his own dominions, and Your Lordship may therefore be assured, that I shall pay the most sedulous attention to the maxims and principles which are inculcated by Your Lordship's instructions, and that I shall endeavour to apply them to every emergency, which may arise, during the period that the absence of Colonel Kirkpatrick may devolve on me the duties of this Residency

9 My conduct, with respect to the Minister of His Highness the Soobahdar, shall be invariably regulated by a strict adherence to the decision of Your Lordship on that subject I trust, however, that Meer Allum will be able to preserve his station without requiring the support or interposition of the British Government His Highness has frequently betrayed a considerable degree of aversion towards Meer Allum, but I do not conceive that, that aversion is founded on any sentiments of personal dislike His Highness perhaps apprehends that Meer Allum being indebted to the British Government for his elevation to his present office, would exert himself to promote the interests of the Hon'ble Company, rather than the interests of his own immediate sovereign, and it is reasonable therefore to suppose that His Highness will be less dissatisfied with Meer Allum, and less jealous of his authority, when he shall discover that Meer Allum depends exclusively on His Highness's pleasure for the maintenance of his situation under the Government of Hyderabad

10 The removal of the guards of British Sepoys from the palace of His Highness the Soobahdar, will certainly afford a considerable degree of satisfaction to the mind of His Highness but I am inclined to think that the sudden and unsolicited adoption of that measure, would be ascribed by His Highness to a wrong motive, and that it might be productive of many of those inconveniences which Your Lordship appears to apprehend from the immediate and total suspension of the interference, that we have hitherto been accustomed to exercise in the administration of the State of Hyderabad

11 It is therefore my intention to avail myself of the latitude contained in the 8th paragraph of Your Lordship's instructions, and to defer the removal of the guards of British Sepoys, from the city of Hyderabad, until I shall have contrived to draw from His Highness the Soobahdar, an expression of his wish to that effect. By this measure I shall be enabled to obviate the inconveniences, to which I have alluded in the preceding paragraph, and instead of exciting the suspicions of His Highness, to gratify him by a compliance with desire, which, I believe, he has always been much at heart, and which perhaps, he has been restrained from declaring only by the apprehension that it would meet with a refusal

12 It is not indeed improbable, that the circumstance of British Sepoys mounting guard in the city, may be connected with the doubts, which His Highness has expressed his intention to disclose to me, and at all events, I shall be able to avail myself of the communications, which His Highness has promised to make to me, either to draw from him his real opinion on the subject of the guards, or to impart to him, without incurring the hazard of inconvenience Your Lordship's willingness to sanction their removal

13 I do not conceive that any necessity exists for the continuance of the British guards, which are still stationed at the habitations of His Highness's brother, and I shall therefore remove them at the same time with those from the palace of His Highness unless I should discover any reason to suppose that His Highness is desirous to their continuance

24 I cannot conclude my reply to a dispatch of such importance as that which prescribes the course of policy that Your Lordship considers it advisable to pursue towards the State of Hyderabad without apologizing for the freedom with which I have presumed to exercise my own judgment and to express my own opinions and without repeating to Your Lordship an assurance that my conduct shall be regulated by the most minute adherence to the maxims and principles which Your Lordship has prescribed and by the most unremitted zeal assiduity prudence and discretion

Letter No 10 —The Resident reports that the Nizam desired to appoint Raja Mahipat Ram elhier as a Nib to Meer Allum ur as a confidential Minister of his own and wanted him (Resident) to consult the Governor General about it Raja Mahipat Ram himself was also anxious for it

FROM—H RUSSFII ACTING RESIDENT AT HYDERABAD
TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL

Hyderabad the 14th October 1805

1 I have the honour to inform Your Lordship that Raja Mahipat Ram arrived from the army at Hyderabad on the 3rd and called on me on the 6th instant

2 The conversation at this visit consisted chiefly of mutual complimentary expressions Raja Mahipat Ram said that he derived great pleasure from the opportunity which had been afforded to him of becoming acquainted with the manners customs and opinions of European gentlemen and assured me that he should strenuously endeavour to convince His Highness the Subahdar of the benefits that he derived from his alliance with the Honourable Company and to place before His Highness in their proper light the views principles and policy of the British Government He told me he was extremely desirous to obtain the good opinion of Your Lordship and that he hoped his conduct would be represented to Your Lordship in such a manner as to promise the attachment of that unfortunate object.

3 I replied to the Raja that the length of time during which he had served with the Honourable Company's Troops must have enabled him to form an adequate estimation of the support and protection that the interest and dominions of His Highness the Subahdar had derived from the superiority of the British Arms, and that I had no doubt he would communicate to His Highness the faithful result of his own experience I assured him that he could not fail to obtain the good opinion of Your Lordship by exerting himself actively to deserve it and that it would afford me great pleasure to report his conduct in the most just and favourable manner to Your Lordship

4 The rank and consideration to which Raja Mahipat Ram has now attained rendered it necessary that I should make him a complimentary present on the occasion of the first visit that he paid to me. I therefore presented to him a jewel and Khallut from among those which had been originally received by the Resident

5 Raja Mahipat Ram was accompanied by Meer Abdool Lateef who told me after the Raja had taken his leave, that my letter had been presented by Meer Allum to His Highness that His Highness had read it with an

appearance of great satisfaction, had expressed himself much gratified by the assurances, that it contained and had declared, that when he intimated a desire to receive those assurances from Moonshy Uzeez Oollah, he had not even ventured to expect that I should pay so much attention to his wishes, as to convey them to him under my own signature

6 I told Meer Abdul Latif that I was extremely happy to find my letter had succeeded in producing the effect, for which it was intended, but that I conceived it would be more satisfactory to Your Lordship, to receive the proof of that success immediately from His Highness, and that I therefore hoped His Highness would be pleased to honour me with an answer to my letter. Meer Abdool Lutcef said he would communicate my wish to Meer Allum, from whom I have since received an assurance that he will endeavour to prevail on His Highness to reply to my letter in a few days

7 On the afternoon of the 8th instant, I received an intimation from His Highness, desiring that I would attend him on the following morning, at a garden, in which he is building a palace, at a short distance from the city. I accordingly waited on His Highness at about 8 o'clock on the morning of the 9th and found him attended by Meer Allum, Raja Mahipat Ram and those Omrahs who are generally near the person of His Highness

8 His Highness appeared to be in very good humour. He received me with an unusual degree of kindness, and endeavoured to enter into general conversation, but he was evidently embarrassed and confused, and it was some time before I learned the cause to which I was indebted for the (indistinct) an audience at length His Highness (indistinct) me in an awkward manner and (indistinct) voice, that he had sent for me to (indistinct) the progress of his building, but (indistinct) that he might have an opportunity of assuring me, that he had derived the greatest satisfaction from the communications which had been mentioned to him by the Raja Mahipat Ram and that he had obtained from the Raja more accurate knowledge than he had before been able to acquire, of the attachment of all the servants of the Honourable Company to his person and Government, and that he was now more firmly convinced than ever of the importance and advantages of his alliance with the Honourable Company

9 My surprise at the extraordinary cause which His Highness had assigned for desiring me to attend him was increased by the abruptness and embarrassment of his manner. But I thought it necessary to conceal my own sentiments from the observation of His Highness, and I told him in reply, merely, that the conduct, which he had ascribed to Raja Mahipat Ram, had been that of a faithful and honest servant, and that I was convinced any circumstance that could increase the confidence of his Highness, in the British Government, would prove a source of great satisfaction to Your Lordship's mind

10 I have little doubt, that the object of His Highness, in this communication, was to impress me with an opinion, that Raja Mahipat Ram is sincerely attached to the Honourable Company's Government and to prevail on me to recommend him warmly to Your Lordship as a person by whom all views and interests would be actively supported if he were invested with any office of authority at Hyderabad

11 During the life time of the late Nizam, Raja Mahipat Ram was frequently employed, about the person of Secunder Jah, and he has always been supposed to possess a large share of His Highness's confidence and attachment. Since the accession of His Highness to the Musnud, he has

continued to cultivate with care and assiduity the good opinion of His Highness and during the short time that he has already been at Hyderabad he has been treated with more honourable distinction, and more entire confidence than any other person at the Durbar. He is almost daily admitted to a private audience and is said to be consulted on every occasion.

12 Before Raja Mahipat Ram arrived at Hyderabad it was reported that His Highness intended either to appoint him the Naib of Meer Allum or to invest him with some office which though normally subordinate to the minister should constitute him the efficient agent of his Government.

13 The manner in which Raja Mahipat Ram has been received and treated by His Highness and the observations which I made at my last audience have certainly induced me to think that the intention of His Highness were accurately reported and that opinion has been confirmed by a message which I received from Raja Mahipat Ram on the 10th instant requesting that I would report to Your Lordship in the most favourable terms the communication which had been made to me on the preceding day by His Highness and assuring me that he had succeeded in eradicating from the mind of His Highness many injurious doubts and suspicions with which he had found it impressed on his arrival at Hyderabad.

14 To this message I replied that I should of course report to Your Lordship the communication which His Highness had made to me and that with respect to the doubts which the Raja said he had eradicated from the mind of His Highness it would be both satisfactory and useful to me to know the precise nature and object of them and that I therefore requested he would afford me the necessary information on the subject. To this intimation I have not yet received any answer.

15 Although the attachment of His Highness to Raja Mahipat Ram may have induced him to wish that the Raja should become his confidential minister it is probable that he would not like to adopt a measure of such importance as the appointment of a minister without the knowledge and concurrence of Your Lordship. His first object therefore would be to obtain for Raja Mahipat Ram the good opinion of Your Lordship and I conceive it was for that purpose that His Highness sent for me on the 9th and that Mahipat Ram himself was so urgent in requesting that I would report to Your Lordship the communication which had been made to me by His Highness.

16 It is not necessary that either His Highness or Raja Mahipat Ram should conceive that I suspect the nature and direction of their views and I shall therefore appear to them as if I did not suppose that it was intended to detain the Raja at Hyderabad. He is at present engaged in the ceremony of his daughter's marriage which will be concluded in about a fortnight. I shall then remind him of his promise to return immediately to camp and the manner in which he receives my intimation will enable me to form a more accurate opinion of his views at Hyderabad.

17 The anxiety and fears of Meer Allum and his friends betray their apprehension of the superior influence of Raja Mahipat Ram. Meer Allum has frequently asked me how long it was likely that Mahipat Ram would remain at Hyderabad, and he appeared to be much gratified by my assurance that in a few days I should urge him to perform his promise of returning to the Army.

18 I am sorry to inform Your Lordship that Mohummud Azeem Khan the Khaosmao of His Highness the Soobahdar died a few days ago.

Letter No. 11.—Reports the state of Court politics in Hyderabad, centring round the relations between Meer Allum and Raja Mahipat Ram and the Nizam. The possibility of strained relations between Mahipat Ram and Meer Allum is hinted.

FROM—HENRY RUSSELL, ACTING RESIDENT AT HYDER-
ABAD,

TO—SIR G H BARLOW, GOVERNOR-GENERAL.

Hyderabad, the 19th November 1805

Since I last had the honour to address you, nothing has occurred at this Durbar of sufficient importance to be submitted to your notice

2 No decisive measures appear to have been yet taken, either by His Highness the Soubahdar, or by Raja Mahipat Ram respecting the introduction of the Raja into the administration of the Government. The confidence and attachment of His Highness towards the Raja, have not experienced any visible diminution, he is admitted almost daily to a private audience, and Meer Allum, though jealous of his superior influence, and alarmed at the extent of his ambition, is reduced to the necessity of soliciting the support, and employing the intercession of the Raja, in every instance in which it may be requisite to obtain the concurrence of the Soubahdar

3 The most accurate intelligence that my exertions have enabled me to obtain through the uncertain channel of secret information, induces me to think, that it is the object of Mahipat Ram to leave Meer Allum in possession of the Dewany, to procure for Meer Abdool Luteef, the nominal appointment of Naib, and to constitute himself the official Agent of the Government, under the appellation of Paishcar to the Dewan

4 I have little doubt that this arrangement is contemplated with as much anxiety by His Highness, as by Mahipat Ram himself and that the Raja does not entertain any views, which are not assiduously promoted by His Highness, but Mahipat Ram is afraid to excite the unreserved enmity of Meer Allum and Mooneer Ool Moolk by an open avowal of his intentions, and His Highness is unwilling to adopt a measure of such importance as a change in the administration of his political affairs without the decided concurrence, and support of the British Government

5 Under these circumstances it is difficult to foresee at what period or in what manner the present crisis of affairs at the court of Hyderabad, may be expected to terminate. The enmity between Mahipat Ram and Meer Allum may perhaps become so violent and decided, as to compel His Highness to make a final choice between them, or His Highness may at length acquire so much confidence in his own authority, and in the support of the British Government, as publicly to declare his resolution of investing Mahipat Ram with the office of Paishcar; but whatever may be the strength or virulence of faction, or whatever the secret inclinations of His Highness, you may be assured that my conduct shall be strictly regulated by the greatest prudence and discretion, and by the maxims prescribed in the instructions of your predecessor

6 I have the honour to enclose to you a translation of the circular order, which His Highness the Soubahdar has addressed to the Jagheerdars and Officers on his Frontier in consequence of the intimation which I was directed by Mr Secretary Edmonstone's letter of the 20th ultimo, to convey to him on the subject of Serjee Rao Ghautkey

7 I have this morning announced to Meer Allum the arrival of letters from you to the address of His Highness the Soubahdar and Meer Allum and have requested that His Highness will be pleased to appoint an early date for me to deliver them to him at the Durbar

Letter No 12—Russell refers to the jealousy between Meer Allum and Raja Mahipat Ram for supreme power, and suggests that the latter should not be allowed to overthrow Meer Allum and become Prime Minister for which he may have the support of the Nizam. The interest of the British would be safe if he is allowed to work with Meer Allum at the Court

FROM—H. RUSSELL ACTING RESIDENT AT HYDRABAD
TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL

Hyderabad the 18th December 1805

1 In compliance with an invitation which I received sometime ago from Raja Mahipat Ram I paid him a visit at his house in the city on the evening of the 15th instant

2 The solicitude with which the Minister has invariably opposed a communication between the Resident and any of the dependants of His Highness the Soubahdar and especially the apprehension and anxiety with which Meer Allum contemplates the most remote appearance of an intercourse between me and Raja Mahipat Ram has rendered it indispensably necessary for me to adopt a peculiar degree of circumspection in my correspondence with the Raja and has precluded me from obtaining that accurate knowledge of the disposition wishes and intentions of His Highness the Soubahdar which it is as much the interest of the Raja to impart as it is my desire to receive. Since the return of the Raja to Hyderabad he has called only twice at the Residency and on each of those occasions he subjected himself to the reproaches and displeasure of the minister

3 I was therefore desirous to avail myself of the only opportunity it was likely I should have to converse with the Raja on the actual crisis of affairs at the court of Hyderabad and as I had reason to believe that it was the intention of Meer Allum to depute to the Raja's House some confidential person who might report to him the conversation that should take place I determined to ascertain the correctness of my own opinions and to prevail on the Raja to disclose to me his own views and the intentions of His Highness before the arrival of Meer Allum's Agent should occur to interrupt us

4 The first object of my enquiry was the consideration by which His Highness had been restrained from delivering to me his answer to my letter and the purport of the lines which he was said to have inserted in his own handwriting

5 The Raja told me without hesitation or reserve that the expression which His Highness had introduced implied that any degree of enmity which he might be supposed to entertain towards the Honourable Company's Government existed only in the mind of his minister and that the presence of Meer Allum and the apprehension that he might become acquainted with the nature and object of the answer were the motives by which His Highness had been actuated in suspending his intention of delivering it to me at the Durbar on the evening of the 21st ultimo that the decided and unequivocal manner in which His Highness had expressed

himself in his answer to my letter, would naturally lead to an entire disclosure of his sentiments and wishes, and that His Highness had therefore been induced to retain it, until I should have addressed to him the note, which he was desirous to receive from me, assuring him that I would not reveal my communications, which His Highness might make to me in confidence

6 I replied to Raja Mahipat Ram, that the injunction of His Highness would be sufficient to prevent me from revealing any communication, which it might be the desire of His Highness to keep secret but that to remove the apprehensions of His Highness, and to dispel the uneasiness of his mind, I should not hesitate to convey that assurance to him, in writing whenever His Highness should transmit to me a draft of the note which he was anxious to receive

7 The Raja said that he had already explained to me the cause of the delay, that had occurred in obtaining the draft from His Highness, but that he would now renew his exertions, and endeavour to procure and transmit it to me in a few days. In this attempt, however, I think it likely the Raja will be disappointed for although he himself spoke with confidence of his success, I am still inclined to believe that the delay and hesitation of His Highness, proceed more from the cause assigned in the concluding paragraph of my last address than from that which was communicated to me by the Raja

8 In answer to my enquiries on the subject of His Highness's intentions towards Mahipat Ram himself, he told me unreservedly that it was the anxious desire of His Highness to introduce him into the administration of his Government, and that His Highness had repeatedly proposed to invest him with the office of Paishcar but that it was his determined resolution not to accept any situation of which he would not exercise the functions, without control or opposition, and that he had therefore invariably and positively objected to serve in a capacity, immediately subordinate to the authority of Meer Allum that it was his intention to avail the result of the communications which he hoped His Highness would be prevailed on to make to you, through your representative at this Court and if circumstances should not then become more favourable to his views, to retire from Hyderabad and resume his duty with the Army in advance

9 At this period of our conversation, we were interrupted by the arrival of a gentleman, on the part of Meer Allum. He came on the pretence of conveying the compliment of the Meer to the Raja and to me and as the forms of etiquette required that the Raja should entreat him to join the party, we were compelled to discourse during the remainder of the evening, on general and unimportant subjects.

10 By the information which I have now the honour to submit to you, you will perceive not only, that it is the object of His Highness the Soubahdar to effect the removal of Meer Allum from his present situation, but that the ambition of Mahipat Ram has at length expired to the highest office of the State

11 Under the supposition that the views of Mahipat Ram were confined to the attainment of an office, which though nominally subordinate to the minister, should render him an efficient agent of the Government, and that His Highness the Soobahdar would have been satisfied by the success of that arrangement I was strongly inclined to think that the elevation of the Raja, would prove beneficial to the interests both of His Highness and of the Honourable Company's Government and that the Raja ought therefore receive as large a portion of the countenance of the Resident, as it might be consistent with the maxims of your policy to

afford But I am decidedly of opinion that the inordinate extension of his views ought not to be encouraged by the British Government and that the remarks and designs of Meer Allum ought not to be accelerated by that power to whose influence and support he is indebted for his elevation to the office of Prime Minister

12 If Mahipat Ram had been contented to discharge the duties of Peshkar under the administration of Meer Allum many important advantages might have been expected to result from the competition of two men whose talents weight and consideration are decidedly superior to those of any other person in the State of Hyderabad The apprehension which they would mutually entertain of the preponderance of each other would render it the urgent and indispensable interest of both to conciliate the good opinion of the British Government, as well as that of their own immediate sovereign and we should be enabled to preserve our influence unimpaired without the necessity of exercising any invidious degree of interference in the affairs of His Highness the Soubahdar

13 If on the contrary Raja Mahipat Ram should succeed in effecting the removal of Meer Allum and in obtaining for himself the exercise of an unlimited authority at Hyderabad I am strongly inclined to apprehend that the Government of His Highness the Soubahdar would be rendered more than ever a prey to the extortion and capacity of Mootusuddies and that our influence would naturally become precarious and insecure It is probable that Mahipat Ram would confine his sense of obligation to him alone on whose pleasure he would depend for the maintenance of his power and I am decidedly of opinion that if Secunder Jai could ever find a minister on entire attachment and devotion he could implicitly rely for the accomplishment for his purposes it would become impossible for the British Government to maintain even the original principles and objects of the alliance without a constant and invidious interference in the internal affairs of the administration at Hyderabad and without existing a degree of jealousy and dissatisfaction in the mind of the Soubahdar, which it is on all accounts desirable to avoid

Letter No 13—The Resident informs the Governor General how Raja Mahipat Ram had intrigued and won over the Nizam and also influenced the Prime Minister to retain him in the Capital as the Peshkar of the Prime Minister Meer Allum The arrangements made to fill Mahipat Ram's place in Berar are also referred to

FROM—T SYDENHAM RESIDENT AT HYDERABAD

TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL

Hyderabad the 31st January 1806

Since the date of my last official address No 4 an active intrigue has been carried on by Raja Mahipat Ram to effect his stay at this capital The Raja has more than once endeavoured to establish a private and separate communication with me through some of his adherents and friends but I have considered it to be my duty to resist in the most explicit terms any such clandestine correspondence I have not thought it proper to see any person who does not come to the Residence in an open and acknowledged manner either from the Soubahdar or the Prime Minister and I have desired the Agents of Mahipat Ram to be told that I was perfectly indifferent towards their master's views or pretensions that my sentiments on all subjects connected with my intercourse with this Government had been and would continue to be communicated either to the Prince in person or his Minister and that I could not recognize any other

medium of communication with the Soubahdar but the acknowledged ministers of His Highness's Government I have desired the same answer to be given to the Agents of Shegurool Moolk, Chandu Lal and other persons who have sent private messages to me

2 But though I have studiously avoided anything like intervention or intercourse, in these intrigues, I have not been inattentive to the prosecution of them and I therefore shall take the liberty to submit to your notice my view of those transactions, without presuming to suppose that my opinions which have not the advantage of experience or accurate knowledge of character, can be very correct

3. The ultimate views of the Raja have been fully developed in the correspondence of the late Acting Resident A short time before my arrival, those views tended decidedly openly, and most unequivocally to the removal of the present minister, and if all the Raja asserted could be depended upon, it would appear that the Soubahdar himself was so dissatisfied with his present minister as anxiously to wish that Raja Mahipat Ram should supplant and succeed him

4 I have already stated to you in my official address (No 4) that I had perceived no symptoms of dissatisfaction between the Soubahdar and the Ministers, nor have I yet perceived any I have found both the Prince and the Minister courteous, cheerful and unreserved, and from neither of them have I received the most distant hint of distrust or dissatisfaction as long as this appearance is maintained in public, and in my intercourse with the Court I do not consider it of much importance to ascertain what their real feelings may be

5 It would appear that since my arrival here, Raja Mahipat Ram has ostensibly changed his tone and intentions but he is said in private to indulge the same hopes of ultimately supplanting the Prime Minister It is evident that the only means he had of successfully accomplishing either the whole extent, or any of the intermediate degree of his ambitious views depended entirely on his being permitted to remain at his capital, without condescending to advert to what might be the private views of the Raja, I thought it incumbent on me to propose his return to his station in Berar, for the purpose of superintending in person the necessary arrangements for the Security and Defence of that province My opinion was founded upon the arrangements, which had left the defence of that province to be provided for by this Government, and upon a conviction of the propriety of the personal control over the province, of the officer, who was responsible for the safety of it As the Raja had no arguments to urge against his resuming his personal command in Berar, he felt that it would be necessary to bring his intrigues to bear upon the Minister, in such a way as might prevent the Minister from effecting his removal The Raja has already paid heavily for the influence which he possesses over the mind of the Soubahdar, and since my last meeting with the Minister his bribes have been profusely scattered through the city, and have it is said even found their way to the adherents of Meer Allum In particular he is said to have given Mooneer Ool Moolk two lacks of rupees, and though Mooneer Ool Moolk is the natural rival of Mahipat Ram, it is supposed that his jealousy has been overpowered by so large a sum, and the promise of a future recompense

6 In this interval of contest and intrigues all public business appeared to be interrupted and as I was desirous to procure the information which I had required, and the Minister had promised to furnish at our last meeting, I thought it proper to address a note to him, a copy and translation of which forms an enclosure to this address I have the honour likewise to enclose translation of the Minister's reply to my note.

7 Soon after the receipt of my note the Minister had a long private audience with the Soubahdar and during the latter part of it Mahipat Ram was present. The particulars of that meeting did not reach me but it was understood throughout the city, that the Soubahdar had expressed great anxiety, that Mahipat Ram should remain at the capital and that the Minister had promised to effect the Soubahdar's wishes.

8 The following night Raja Soorey Want the confidential Mootosuddie of the Minister suddenly died and this event was instantly converted into a strong argument for the detention of Mahipat Ram at Hyderabad. It was urged by the Raja to the Soubahdar that all the internal and Revenue concerns of the State had been managed for the Minister, by Soorey Want and that in consequence of that person's death the Minister would require a confidential Mootosuddie to supply his place. The Raja offered to act in that capacity and assured His Highness that his services at Hyderabad would be much more useful than they could be in Berar.

9 It may be readily imagined that Raja Mahipat Ram who is sagacious, vigilant, active and rich and who was conscious that the success of all his views depended on his being able to effect his detention at the capital would not fail to employ every resource of intrigue which flows from the rapacity and corruption of a court like that of Hyderabad. On the other hand the Minister who is no personal favourite with the Soubahdar who unfortunately despises the influence of Mahal who with more justice than policy has an unfeigned contempt for the low and profligate companions of the Soubahdar who has few friends and no active adherents and whose infirmities have impaired the energy of his character is scarcely able to cope with such an antagonist as Mahipat Ram. It would appear that the Minister is himself perfectly conscious of his inadequacy to resist the superior influence of Mahipat Ram, and being fearful of the result of a competition with him has preferred conciliating both the Soubahdar and the Raja by a ready and cheerful compliance with their wishes. He assured His Highness of his anxiety to retain Mahipat Ram about himself for the purpose of supplying the place of the late Soorey Want and he entered into a written engagement with the Raja to promote his views and protect his fortunes. With respect to the province of Berar the Minister promised the Soubahdar to meet the Resident for the purpose of discussing some arrangement for the defence of the northern and western frontiers, as might satisfy the British Government that the tranquillity of His Highness's dominion should be maintained undisturbed.

10 Such is the view which I am disposed to take of the whole of this transaction from the best information which it has been in my power to procure. It can scarcely be doubted but that the Minister would be better pleased if Mahipat Ram had returned to Berar but it is probable that being weary of further competition and being doubtful of the result of a contest he has preferred to reconcile rather than any longer to oppose their interests.

11 It was lately reported that Mahipat Ram would be immediately appointed Peshkar to the Minister. Such an arrangement is not unlikely and perhaps may not be very distant. But I have not received any official intimation of it.

12 Matters were in this State when by appointment I met the Minister at his house on the evening of the 27th instant. The persons present were Mr Ure, Moosacerool Moolk and Raja Mahipat Ram.

13 The Minister made a long speech to me in which he assured me of his solicitude to make every exertion and adopt every proper arrangement for the defence of Berar. He agreed with me that there was no

person so capable of giving effect to those arrangements, as Mahipat Ram, but he observed that being himself prevented by his infirmity from taking an active part in the details of business, and having been deprived of the assistance of Sooraj Wante he was very anxious to procure the personal assistance of Mahipat Ram, of whom he spoke in terms of the highest praise. He added that the Soubahdar was equally solicitous that this arrangement should take place, but had directed him to refer the whole question to me, and to be guided by my opinion upon that subject, as well as upon every other connected with the interests and welfare of his Government and country.

14 I made suitable acknowledgments for the confidence, which the Soubahdar had been pleased to repose in my opinion. I begged the Minister to assure the Soubahdar that every opinion which, on this or any other occasion, I should take the liberty to offer, would proceed from the sincere interest and concern which the British Government felt for the repose and dignity of the Asaphia (sic) State. I had suggested the return of Mahipat Ram to the province of Berar because I conceived his services could in no other station be so usefully employed but if the Minister required and the Soubahdar wished the presence of that officer at the capital, it appeared to me that he ought to remain here, and I ended by hoping the Minister and Mahipat Ram, would adopt some effective arrangement for the defence of Berar.

15 Mahipat Ram then made many protestations of his great attachment to the British Government, and he sought me to be assured that the province of Berar should not be exposed to any dangers from his absence, that he was a Mootesuddie and no soldier and that as a Mootesuddie he could be nowhere so useful to the State as at Hyderabad.

16 The Minister then asked me what arrangement I had to propose for the defence of Berar, as His Highness had ordered every suggestion of mine to be complied with. I replied that I thought the defence of the province should be entrusted to some respectable Military Officer, who should be invested with a general exclusive command over all the troops, and be held responsible for the security of the province. The Minister concurred in this, and asked me what officer ought to be entrusted with those powers. I replied that the Minister must be better acquainted with the characters and merits of His Highness's Officers than I could be, but that I had heard Salabat Khan spoken of as a most respectable man, and an excellent officer, and he appeared to me to be quite worthy of the Chief Command in Berar. Mahipat Ram immediately acceded to this and spoke of Salabat Khan in high terms of praise. I likewise mentioned the name of Gulam Hyder Khan, as a very respectable officer, and after some conversation between the Minister and Mahipat Ram, it was determined by them that Salabat Khan should be invested with the chief command of the troops in the province, and that Gulam Hyder Khan and Soobhan Khan should, under Salabat Khan's command in the eastern and western divisions of the province. I observed that I hoped the Minister intended to invest those officers with exclusive control over the troops, and not to place them under the orders of the Talookdars of the province. It would likewise be necessary that the troops should be held in constant readiness for active field service as vigilance and activity would be distinctly empowered(?) to assume the chief personal command of all the troops whenever occasion might require their assembling for field service (?). The Minister agreed in the propriety of all these suggestions, and the drafts of the orders to Salabat Khan and the other two officers (a copy of which I have seen) are precisely to the effect of those suggestions.

17 The Minister wished to know whether I saw any objection to the employment of Surepat Ram the nephew of Mahipat Ram in the general superintendence of his uncle's Talukdaree. I begged the Minister distinctly to understand that neither on this nor any other occasion did I wish to influence the selection of the officers of Government all that I was anxious to observe was a disposition on the part of His Highness's Government to attend to the defence and security of the northern frontier and the general tranquility of the country in both of which objects the British Government as a close ally of His Highness, was materially interested

(Portion after this missing in the volume)

Letter No 14—Sydenham reports the details of a struggle between Meer Allum Raja Mahipat Ram and Raghotani Rao to gain ascendancy at the Court by having the confidence and support of the Nizam. The Resident threw his weight on the side of Meer Allum. The Begums Raghotam Rao the Resident and certain notable persons supported the request of Meer Allum for a reconciliation between him and the Nizam on certain specific terms. They were ultimately accepted by the Nizam after some evasion and wavering on the part of the latter. The terms of the reconciliations form an enclosure to this letter

FROM—THE SYDENHAM RESIDENT AT HYDRABAD
TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL

Hyderabad the 29th April 1806

I have delayed addressing you on the subject of the arrangements which have for sometime past engrossed the whole attention of this Court in the daily expectation of being able to report to you the termination and result of them. But the counsels of the Souhalidar are so fluctuating his mind has been so agitated by the opposing interests and even the contending passions of the persons who have most influence over his mind and there has been such machinations and intrigue employed to interrupt a reconciliation from which none but profligate retainers at the Court could suffer that I am now only surprised how the Minister could have such various and complicated difficulties to the attainment of his just and reasonable wishes. I have however great satisfaction in reporting to you Hon'ble Sir that the Minister has at length succeeded in effecting a reconciliation with his Sovereign not by the low acts of bribery and corruption nor by the agitation of depraved and factious intrigues but upon open avowed and honorable principles and by intervention of the most dignified and respectable personages at the Court

2 I have likewise pleasure in stating that the reconciliation has been commenced carried on and finally effected without one act of interference on the part of the British Resident. I have several times as occasion required assisted the Minister with my sentiments and advice. I have sometimes had to keep him steadily to that path of conduct which we had agreed upon as the most likely to lead to the accomplishment of his wishes. But the Minister's measures with some few deviations which may be ascribed to infirmity and indolence and to the rooted habits of all Asiatic statesmen have been mainly dignified and temperate and such as must do credit to the open and avowed support which I have been the means of affording to him from the British Government.

3 I now proceed briefly to relate the rise, progress and termination of this transaction, in the hope that the narrative may tend to develop the state of parties of this court, with more fulness and greater detail, than I have yet had an opportunity of doing since my arrival at Hyderabad

4, Almost ever since that period the Minister has pointed out to me in forcible terms, the total want of harmony and efficiency in this Government, has described to me the evils which proceed from his want of sufficient powers, and has lamented the perverse and intractable disposition of the Soubahdar, who systematically opposes every arrangement for the conduct of business and the benefit of the country. That these evils do exist and that they are highly discreditable to the reputation and interests of the Soubahdar, is too evident to require proof or illustration. But the object of the Minister in sedulously bringing before my notice evils, the existence of which I had never doubted seems to have been, to convince me of the necessity of his being invested with fuller powers, than he at present possesses, and to impress upon my mind the policy of his being assisted by the British Government, in the attainment of those powers. Indeed the Minister has not always contented himself with permitting me to draw the obvious inference from his statements and reasonings but has twice unequivocally asked me to obtain for him the same plenary power with which his predecessor was invested by the late and present Soubahdar of the Deccan

5 On all occasions when such conversation has passed, either between ourselves, or through the medium of his Moonshy, I have candidly told him that I had observed and lamented, that he enjoyed so little confidence and that his exercise of the usual powers of his high station, should be so often restricted by the Soubahdar himself or thwarted by the injurious intrigues of the persons, who surround the Soubahdar. I have as frankly declared to him, that I was at all times ready to afford to him that degree of open and avowed support, that was consistent with the relations subsisting between the two Governments, but that I could do no more, and that with regard to His Highness the Soubahdar, I could exercise no other influence than such as might proceed from my sentiments and opinion on all subjects connected with the agreement of our combined interests. I have likewise observed to him that it appeared to me, that the want of power of which the Minister complained was in fact want of confidence. This object, therefore, ought to acquire that confidence. And the mode of acquiring it, appeared to me to be to conciliate the Soubahdar through the intervention of such respectable persons as were lately to influence his feelings to act openly, consistently and firmly to place his condition not only above reproach, but above misconstruction to seize every occasion of giving the Soubahdar sound advice, in temperate and respectful terms and in short to exert that influence which wisdom and experience must always in the end acquire over folly and weakness

6 To this and similar advice the Minister has always replied that the Soubahdar is too weak and ignorant and too obstinate to be influenced by such a mode of conduct with a person of sense, discrimination and virtue such a procedure could not fail of success, but the Soubahdar was inaccessible to good advice and proper feelings, all his habits were low and depraved, his companions loose and profligate, his advisers short-sighted and evil-minded and his own character fickle, capricious, suspicious and perverse

7 I have observed that admitting this to be a true description of the state of things, I saw no other probable remedy to the evil which he had so forcibly described but the adoption of the plan, I had suggested. We had yet no right to assume that the Soubahdar was incapable of reconciliation

for such a system of conciliation as I had suggested had never yet been fairly attempted and sedulously followed. I admitted there were serious obstacles to the success of the plan I had proposed, but until it were tried and had failed we could not infer that it was impracticable. The Mir replied that he did not mean to assert that the Soubahdar could not be conciliated but that he was only to be conciliated by such means as he could not in honour adopt. Ragotim Rao conciliated the Soubahdar by abusing the Company and by feeding him with delusive hopes of shaking off the alliance and by wild plans of a general confederacy to exterminate the British nation from India. Mahipat Ram could conciliate the Soubahdar by promises of extortion and rapacity to fill the treasury at the expense of the country and by political plans which though not so absurd and wild as those of Ragotim Rao certainly intended the British Government no good. The Mir said that it was to be supposed those persons really intended all they so boldly promised he only meant to show that it was by such means they had acquired an influence over the Soubahdar. The weak and credulous mind of Ragotim Rao to a greater degree than Mahipat Ram perhaps in proportion to the superior extravagance of his schemes.

8 Although I could not deny the force of some of the Minister's arguments although I knew the lamentable habits and disposition of the Soubahdar and the unwarrantable means by which several persons have acquired great influence over his mind I persisted in holding the same language and as often as my opinion and advice have been required I have uniformly recommended a system of conciliation. The Minister appeared gradually to consent to the propriety of my advice and expressed his resolution to employ every means in his power to conciliate the Soubahdar and to acquire his confidence and support.

9 With this view the Minister paid assiduous court to the Begums (Buchshe Bagum and Syneatoo Nissa Begum). To them and to Umjedool Moolk and Ihtisamool Moolk two of the most respectable persons about the Soubahdar the Minister took every opportunity to describe the very inefficient and discreditable state of the Government and to complain of the unmerited neglect of the Soubahdar and of the systematic opposition which from some secret quarter was exerted against all his measures and propositions. At the same time this querulous tone was prudently qualified by an expression of his earnest solicitude to obtain the favour and confidence of the Soubahdar and to render himself acceptable to His Highness by the most jealous and impartial discharge of his duty. These representations were listened to, and the justice of them acknowledged both by the Begums and Umjedool Moolk and Ihtisamool Moolk founded as they were on truth and proceeding from a person who would naturally command respect and attention they made a considerable impression on the persons to whom they were addressed. Every reflecting and disinterested person must be sensible of the impropriety of the Soubahdar treating the Minister with neglect and sometime with studied indignity and of being led away by the advice and opinion of such men as Mahipat Ram and Ismail Yar Jung. That Umjedool Moolk and Ihtisamool Moolk should participate in the Minister's feelings and should prefer to add authority placed in the hands of Meer Allum rather than in those of Mahipat Ram is not surprising but it must be necessary to account for the change in the sentiments of the Begums and for the lively interest which they have taken in favour of the Minister.

10 I have already noticed in a former address that Ragotim Rao possessed a predominant influence over the Mahal and was exerting that influence to the prejudice of Mahipat Ram. The Begums who are guided by Ragotim Rao have for sometime past been incensed at the control

which Mahipat Ram exercised over the mind of the Soubahdar for it must be confessed that Mahipat Ram has not been very scrupulous or modest in the exercise of his power. Mahipat Ram is aware of these sentiments and of the quarter from which they proceeded endeavoured to procure the good will and support of Ragotim Rao, but Ragotim Rao has constantly evaded a combination of their interests and as actively employed all his influence to lessen that of Mahipat Ram. When Mahipat Ram found it impossible to effect a coalition of his interests with those of Ragotim Rao, he became bolder in his opposition against the Begums and placed his influence in open competition against that of Ragotim Rao. From these circumstances it is easy to imagine that the Begums would be disposed to listen to the remonstrances of the Minister against the secret influence of Mahipat Ram, and would be solicitous to promote a reconciliation between the Minister and the Soubahdar of which the object and the effect would be the exclusion of that influence which was as unpleasant to the Begums as it was injurious to the Minister.

11 The Begums although they could not render the Soubahdar hostile to Mahipat Ram, succeeded in destroying a great share of the Raja's influence and at the same time they neglected no opportunity of disposing His Highness's mind towards the Minister and preparing His Highness for a reconciliation with him. After much intercourse and many messages between His Highness and the Minister, it was agreed upon that the Minister should prepare a Wajibool Arz, in which he was to state what he required, and to which the Soubahdar was to write such replies as should be considered a deed of reconciliation, a promise of future confidence and support, and a sanction to such arrangements as the Minister should propose for the good of the State.

12 The Minister immediately prepared a Wajibool Arzee, and suggested the replies which he was desirous to procure from the Soubahdar. As an earnest of His Highness's future intention towards him I have the honour to enclose a copy and translation of that paper, which appeared to me to be drawn up with great good sense and to comprehend every object which might justly be accepted by the Minister. It contains such assurances as are calculated to conciliate the Soubahdar, it provided for the nomination on the part of the Minister of Paishkar and Minister for English affairs, it goes to prevent future misunderstanding, and in short places the Minister on that footing which is usual in most states, and is necessary to the efficiency of the administration without conferring upon him any powers that might excite the suspicions of the Prince or the jealousy of the other officers of the Government.

13 When the Begums carried the Wajibool Arz to the Soubahdar His Highness expressed great respect and regard for the Minister and said he entirely approved both of the several articles of request and of the replies which had been suggested to them. His Highness likewise deliberately promised to return the paper in a few hours to the Minister duly signed and ratified. The Begums foreseeing that Mahipat Ram, Ismail Yar Jung, and the companions of the Soubahdar would exert all their influence to prevent the paper being signed endeavoured to prevail upon His Highness to ratify it immediately, but His Highness pertinaciously refused to comply with this solicitation. As soon as the Begums had left him he sent for Mahipat Ram and Ismail Yar Jung and consulted with them and he likewise sent a copy of the Wajibool Arz to Ragotim Rao and required his opinion respecting the propriety of making the replies which the Minister had suggested. It is understood that Ragotim Rao replied that he saw nothing in these replies which the Soubahdar might not sanction with great propriety and safety. But Mahipat Ram and Ismail Yar Jung employed

every argument to alarm the credulous mind of the Soubahdar and to prevent His Highness from ratifying the paper. A violent contest then took place between the rival parties and at length Mahipat Ram succeeded in persuading the Soubahdar to alter the proposed replies and to make others in such equivocal terms as to render the document completely nugatory. When the paper thus altered was sent to the Minister he rejected it with becoming temper and dignity. He observed that it was by no means his wish to obtain from His Highness any assurance which did not voluntarily and deliberately flow from His Highness but that if His Highness were sincerely desirous to restore harmony and confidence to the Government it was requisite that the Wajihool Arz should be ratified in the terms that he had originally suggested. It became again a contest in the palace whether the Wajihool Arz should be answered in the original terms or not and the Soubahdar from day to day fluctuated between the contending counsels of the two parties. In this difficulty His Highness applied to Umjedool Moolk the uncle of Shamsool Omrah one of the most respectable Omrahs at Court and on whose attachment and judgment His Highness places great reliance. Amjedool Moolk without hesitation strenuously (sic) advised the Soubahdar to ratify the Wajihool Arz and commented with great freedom on the intrigues by which His Highness's mind was perverted. The Soubahdar still undetermined required the advice of Ihtisamool Moolk who warmly supported the Minister and discerned at full length the merit of the Wajihool Arz. It became at last evident that the solitary and interested voice of Mahipat Ram could not be opposed to the advice of the Begums and such persons as Umjedool Moolk and Ihtisamool Moolk for even to the mind of the Soubahdar it could never occur that these persons would deliberately advise His Highness to any indiscreet or dangerous measure. When Mahipat Ram discovered that the Soubahdar bent towards the Minister he immediately changed the ground and advised the Soubahdar to ratify the Wajihool Arz with as much warmth as he had displayed in advising the Soubahdar against the measure. By this step Mahipat Ram thought he should recommend himself to the Minister and with singular impudence claimed the support and friendship of the Minister for his important services in the Minister's favour. But Meer Allum who through the whole of these extraordinary and absurd proceedings preserved an admirable uniformity, consistency and moderation of conduct rejected the overtures of Mahipat Ram with proper disdain and unequivocally told him that he equally despised both his friendship and his enmity.

14 Mahipat Ram now commenced an active and extensive intrigue to obtain the Paishkari and I have no doubt that had his conduct been moderately fair and prudent he would have succeeded in the accomplishment of his object. But his intrigues were so complicated he was detected in so many contradictions and he tried his strength so boldly and insolently against all descriptions of persons that he either incensed or forfeited the support of all parties. He adopted on expediency which however artfully contrived completely failed of success. When the Soubahdar had solemnly promised to sign the Wajihool Arz and had required the attendance of the Minister to receive from His Highness's hands that document properly authenticated he prevailed upon the Soubahdar to stoop to an artifice from which Mahipat Ram expected complete success before the Minister was permitted to approach the Soubahdar. He was abruptly asked whom he intended to recommend for the Paishkari the Minister replied with great presence of mind that he was not sent for to propose that measure but to receive the Wajihool Arz he was then told that the Soubahdar wished him to recommend Ragotim Rao the Minister instantly answered as Mahipat Ram expected that there were insurmountable objections to the appointment of Ragotim Rao to the Paishkari. He was afterwards told that the Soubahdar would be pleased if Mahipat Ram were recommended to this

the Minister replied that he would never submit to recommend a person by whom both himself and the Soubahdar had been grossly deceived and who had forfeited all claims to his confidence and support. The Mir was then taken to the Soubahdar, who received the Minister with great attention, asked him many questions concerning his health, but never mentioned the Wajibool Arz. When the Mir returned to his house disappointed and hurt at the low artifice to which the Soubahdar had permitted himself to be made a party he addressed a spirited Arzee to the Begums on which he complained of the treatment he had received and of the absolute violation of the Soubahdar's solemn promises and said that as he perceived His Highness was resolved to avoid a reconciliation he should never again obtrude his wish upon the notice of his sovereign but content himself with the zealous and faithful discharge of his duty under all the unpleasant and distressing circumstances in which he was placed.

15 The Soubahdar was at length made sensible of the inconsistency of Mahipat Ram's conduct and of the propriety of being reconciled to a Minister who had conducted himself under very trying circumstances, with such uniform moderation and respect. His Highness sent very appropriate message to the Minister expressive of his immediate intention to repose that confidence in him which the Minister had required and soon afterwards transmitted to him the Wajibool Arz properly signed, and authenticated by the hands of Ihtisamool Moolk.

16 As soon as this circumstance was made public the principal Omrahs of the Court and many other persons waited on the Minister presented Nuzers of congratulation, and felicitated him upon the happy reconciliation with his Prince.

17 The unavoidable length to which his address has been drawn induces me to postpone any observations on the subject of it to another opportunity. In the mean while I have great satisfaction in reporting that a considerable improvement is already manifested in the general state of the Government. Raja Mahipat Ram has been ordered to his station in Berar, and has received his audience of leave both from the Soubahdar and the Minister. I am assured that the Soubahdar has expressed his readiness to confer the appointment of Paishkar on Raja Chandoo Lall and if under the present fortunate change of circumstances, the Minister should succeed in gaining the confidence of the Soubahdar I have no doubt that the Government will assume more harmony activity and efficiency than it has hitherto possessed since the accession of the present Soubahdar.

Translation of Wajibool Arz which Meer Allum submitted to His Highness the Soubahdar and of the replies which His Highness was pleased to give in his own hand to the several articles of that paper, on the 1st of April 1806

Article 1st—

Your servant has submitted the several requests of his Wajibool Arz to your gracious notice, with the hope, that in your being goodness, they may be ratified by the hand of Your Highness that by the divine assistance the mind of Your Highness disburthened of the cares of business, may be engaged in the support of the honour and the dignity of your throne, and in the undisturbed enjoyment of all your wishes, and that it may be relieved from all anxiety and fear of the internal and external enemies of your State.

Answer—

Praise be to God that my mind reposes the most implicit confidence that object descendant of the prophet, let him also feel perfectly assured

Article 2nd—

As your servant is faithfully attached to Your Highness and as the arrangement of all affairs, and the increase of the splendor and the prosperity of Your Highness's State are the objects of his most earnest solicitude your servant is hopeful from your favour and kindness that his representations on all matters relating to the country its finances and its Military establishment, will be approved without unnecessary alterations and that all which shall be performed and accomplished will be ratified

Answer—

All that shall be done by that loyal person for the Government of the State will be approved

Article 3rd—

The duties of finance and of the Military establishment are by the blessing of God extensive It will be difficult that they should be properly conducted without the appointment of a Pashlar according to ancient custom I trust from Your Highness that that appointment will be conferred on some one who enjoys the confidence both of Your Highness and your servant, and that he will be honoured with the Khellat of Investitures

Answer—

Let a person be recommended from amongst the confidential subjects of the State

Article 4th—

It is necessary that a person who is connected with myself and on whose secrecy reliance can be placed should be appointed to convey my representations to Your Highness and to transact business with the British Resident I am hopeful that a person whom I shall select will receive that appointment

Answer—

Let a person be thought of and mentioned to me

Article 5th—

Let not the insinuation of interested persons be listened to without being substantiated and if any one should make representations to Your Highness, let him be immediately confronted with me in order that the truth or falsehood of such person may be made apparent to Your Highness and that no suspicion or doubt should be entertained in the mind either of Your Highness or of your servant

Answer—

Certainly

True translation

Letter No. 15 —Sydenham reports at length what transpired at the Court before Raja Mahipat Ram could be ordered to Berar and what conversation he had with the Raja when he came to see him before he left for Berar Raja Chandulal had been appointed Peshkar to Meer Allum and was doing his duty well

FROM—T SYDENHAM RESIDENT AT HYDERABAD

TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL.

Hyderabad the 15th May 1806

In my address No 10 I narrated the progress and termination of the measures which had been adopted by the Minister to effect a reconciliation with His Highness the Soubh'ar The immediate effect of that reconciliation was the removal of Raja Mahipat Ram from Hyderabad to his station in Berar

2 It is easy to imagine from all that had previously passed, that the influence, or rather the control of Mahipat Ram, over the mind of the Soubahdar, must have been considerably diminished, indeed nothing but that circumstance could have enabled the Minister to succeed in the accomplishment of his wishes. It might naturally be expected that the first exercise, which the Minister would make of his newly acquired influence, would be the removal of Mahipat Ram from Hyderabad, for it was evident that the reconciliation would be insecure, whilst that person remained in the city to overturn or at least to impede the operation of the arrangement which had been so happily effected in opposition to his wishes.

3 When Mahipat Ram found that the Wajibool Arz had been signed and ratified in spite of his most active opposition, and expensive intrigue, and that the Paishkari was likely to be conferred upon another person, in opposition to his declared pretensions to that office, he exerted himself to prevent his removal from Hyderabad, trusting to the fluctuating interests of the Durbar and the vacillating disposition of the Soubahdar to regain his former influence, expecting that he would at least be able to prevent the appointment of a Paishkar and hoping that some occasion would soon occur to excite the displeasure or suspicions of the Soubahdar against the Minister.

4 The first step which the Minister took to effect the removal of Mahipat Ram was to submit Arzee to the Soubahdar, in which he pointed out the propriety of Mahipat Ram's return to his station in person and requested permission to issue orders for that purpose to the Raja.

5 His Highness sent for the Raja, showed him the Minister's Arzee, and told him it was proper that he should prepare himself for the journey to Berar. The Raja offered many excuses, employed every arguments to prevail on His Highness to allow him to remain at the capital, and asserted that the British Resident was now desirous that he should not quit Hyderabad. The Soubahdar, little surprized at this assertion enquired what grounds he had to suppose that the Resident was desirous that he should remain at Hyderabad. Mahipat Ram replied that on the Resident's arrival, the Resident had certainly recommended that he should be ordered to Berar, but had afterwards expressed his concurrence to his remaining at Hyderabad. The Soubahdar answered that the Resident had done so, because he found that neither His Highness himself or the Minister wished Mahipat Ram to leave Hyderabad, but that was no proof that the Resident was no longer desirous that his original proposal should not be carried into effect. The Raja replied that if His Highness would send to the Resident to say that His Highness required Mahipat Ram's detention at Hyderabad, the Resident would not object to it. The Soubahdar said that the Resident would certainly not object to it under that circumstance, but that he would not express a wish on the subject, and would by that means ascertain what the Resident's real sentiments were. His Highness in consequence accordingly sent to the Minister to desire that my opinion should be taken respecting the propriety of Mahipat Ram's return to Berar.

6 In consequence of an invitation from the Minister I called upon him and he communicated to me the purport of the Soubahdar's message. I replied that I had held and expressed only the opinion respecting the propriety of Mahipat Ram's return to his station in Berar, but that I had not pressed that point as both His Highness and the Minister, ostensibly, required his remaining at the capital. I had not however changed my opinion and I still recommended that Mahipat Ram should return to Berar.

7 The reply having been submitted His Highness the Soubahdar sent for Mahipat Ram and communicated to him my reply. Mahipat Ram observed that no reliance could be placed on a verbal reply which was sent through the Minister as the Minister would of course convert it to his own purpose. The Soubahdar then proposed sending the Arz Beglee and Ittisasmool Moolk to me report my sentiments on the subjects and I was led to expect a visit from those gentlemen. But Mahipat Ram suggested that I should be desired to state my opinion on paper and the Minister Moonshie accordingly acted upon me for the purpose of obtaining a note to the same effect as my former verbal reply to the Minister. I immediately dictated a note and sent it by the Moonshie to the Minister by whom it was submitted to the Soubahdar. I have the honour to enclose for your notice a copy and translation of that note.

8 His Highness after perusing my note observed that he approved of my recommendation and immediately announced his intention of ordering Mahipat Ram to Berar.

9 I have already had the honour to acquaint you in my address No. 11 with what passed between His Highness and myself relative to the departure of Mahipat Ram and to announce to you that Mahipat Ram was to call upon me previously to his departure.

10 The Raja came to me accompanied by Ittisasmool Moolk and Moonshie Ali and I shall now proceed to report what passed on the occasion.

11 The Raja first endeavoured to palliate his conduct during the progress of the late negotiations and insinuated that the favourable result of it was in a great measure owing to his zealous exertions and the singleness of his attachment both to the Soubahdar and the Meer. But I interrupted the Raja and told him that I did not wish to enter into my retrospect of his conduct and would be better pleased to hear what he intended to do hereafter. The Raja appeared relieved by this observation and made the most fervent assurances of his fidelity to his sovereign and his attachment to the British Government and of his perfect sense of the important advantages to the State from the alliance with the British Government. He then said that he was going to Berar in obedience to the orders of the Minister but was alarmed that during his absence the Minister would be prevailed upon by interested persons to deprive him of his situation in Berar and reduce him to poverty and disgrace. I replied that I was happy he was about to return to Berar because he had received an important and extensive trust in that province which it was his duty to superintend in person and that I thought he evinced his fidelity and zeal much more by returning to his station in Berar than by remaining at Hyderabad in the pursuit of object distinct from those of his public duty. I said that he did the Minister great injustice by supposing he entertained a personal animosity against him or would pursue him with such rancour or personal enmity as to deprive him of his situation while he continued to do the duties of it with fidelity and zeal and activity. Then looking towards Moonshie Ali I said that I believed I could take it upon myself to assure him that the Minister entertained no such designs and would support him as long as he continued to do his duty. The Moonshie immediately repeated the assurances which I had previously made. The Raja then addressed me in the most submissive manner and expressed his hope that I was not offended with him and would hereafter assist him by my countenance and influence. I assured the Raja in the most unequivocal terms that I never had nor could have entertained any personal animosity towards him or any other servant of the Government. That as a public Minister my opinion of him should be entirely regulated by what I should learn of his

future conduct in Berar. Mahipat Ram asked me what he could do in Berar, to obtain the favourable opinion of the British Government. I replied that I advised him to maintain the troops in Berar on their present footing to keep them distributed in the manner which had been proposed by Colonels Wallace and Lang, to pay them their full pay regularly and to oblige them to be vigilant and constantly prepared for service. With respect to the country, I advised him to promote its agriculture and commerce, and not to seek for reputation in Court by increasing the revenues by exactions, contributions and other oppressive measures which filled the Treasury at the expense of the country and must in the end impoverish and desolate it. I should expect that under good management, the country would soon improve, and be able at all times to furnish the most abundant supplies to our armies in the event of the future war. I particularly called his attention to this point, and should expect that at a short notice abundant supplies would be stored at any station, which might be determined upon and that the contingent of His Highness's troops in good condition and proper equipment would at all times be ready to join the British Army. I added that I could not forego the present occasion to caution him as a friend against the pursuit of objects inconsistent with his duty, and I strongly reprobated the agitation of factious intrigues and all correspondence of a clandestine nature to interrupt the harmony which at present happily subsisted in this Government. To this discourse the Raja listened with submissive attention, and gave myself, Ihtisamool Moolk and Moonshi Ali, the most solemn assurances of his determination to do his duty in such a way, as he trusted would be acceptable to all parties. He then thanked me for my advice of which he admitted the justice and to which he promised the most implicit and constant attention.

12 I, afterwards addressed myself to Ihtisamool Moolk and paid him suitable compliments on the occasion of his first visit to me. I spoke to him of His Highness the Soubahdar in flattering terms, commented on the important advantages which had occurred to both States from the intimate alliance which subsisted between them and assured him of the sincere interest that I personally took in the prosperity, dignity and honour to His Highness the Soubahdar.

13 Ihtisamool Moolk made a long and elaborate reply, in which he displayed considerable historical knowledge, and expressed himself with uncommon freedom. He observed that it was not until the conclusion of the present alliance that the dominions of the Nizam had enjoyed any ease or tranquillity or that the authority of the Prince had been properly established and respected. He said that the present Soubahdar had a good disposition but was inexperienced, and required continual advice and guidance, that he was too often led away by the insinuations of low and evil-minded persons, but that he trusted the period would soon arrive when he would be directed by the advice of faithful and disinterested counsellors.

14 We afterwards conversed on many indifferent topics and Raja Mahipat Ram and Ihtisamool Moolk went away apparently much pleased with what had passed during the visit.

15 I have the honour to acquaint you that Raja Chundoo Lal has received the appointment of Paishkar to the Dewan, and has entered on the duties of that station with considerable zeal and activity. I have only seen Raja Chandoo Lal once and that merely by accident near the Durbar, but I have heard from all quarters the most favourable character of him. He is represented to be a faithful, honest public servant, and a liberal, generous charitable man and I am told that he is favourably inclined to the British interests, and he appears to be generally respected and believed throughout the city.

16 Since Raja Chindoo Lal has received charge of his station he has applied himself with great industry to bring up the heavy arrears which had taken place in the Revenue Department and is actively employed in bringing that department into regular order. He holds a regular Cutcherec in the Minister's House receives all his orders from the Minister himself and makes his reports twice a day to His Highness the Soubahar. In short there is at length some appearance of regularity and system in the Government the Minister himself is engaged in public business and all the subordinate officers of the administration are compelled to adhere to their respective duties.

17 Raja Chindoo Lal appears to be favourably received by the Soubahdar who had paid more attention to the affairs of Government within these few days, than he has done since his arrival at Hyderabad.

18 His Highness has spent a few days at a garden near the city where he was attended by all the principal Omrahs of the Court, the Minister and Raja Chindoo Lal. His Highness inspected the great work which the Minister has lately completed to bring water into the city and on that occasion received Nuzurs from the Officers of Administration and bestowed the highest praise on the Minister for the accomplishment of so useful and difficult work.

19 How long this favourable disposition and tone will last it would be imprudent for any person who knows the character of this Court to prognosticate but it appears evident to my mind that it now depends on His Highness himself to restore to his Government that harmony efficiency and vigour of which it has so long been deprived.

Translation of a note from Captain Sydenham to the Minister

I have already suggested to you both personally and in writing that it was for the benefit of the State that Raja Mahipat Ram should return to Berar. But hitherto that arrangement has not taken place and in consequence of what you said upon that subject I did not press the arrangement but still I am of opinion that the proper regulation of the province of Berar cannot be secured without the presence of the Raja. I therefore again suggest to you that I shall not be satisfied of the security of His Highness's interest in Berar without the Raja returns to his station in that province. My motive for again bringing this subject under your attention is the sincere interest which take in the welfare of this State. Indeed from the intimacy of our alliance I consider every benefit to His Highness's Government as a (Indistinct) to the British Government and I therefore have again addressed you on this subject.

A true copy

CHARLES RUSSELL

Letter No. 16—Sydenham reports the developments that had taken place after the departure of Raja Mahipat Ram. The Minister and his Peshkar were examining Berar revenues to detect defalcations by the Raja. The Resident suggests the method of organizing the Silledar Establishment in Berar that would ensure its efficiency.

FROM—T SYDENHAM RESIDENT AT HYDERABAD

TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL FORT WILLIAM

Hyderabad the 31st May 1806

Nothing of any importance has occurred at this court since I last had the honour to address you

2 It is reported to me that His Highness the Soubahdar enjoys excellent spirits and appears to be relieved from that anxiety, and alarm, under which he had laboured for sometime past, and which I always attributed to the absurd impressions that he received from the factious persons about him

3 Raja Chandoo Lall is steadily and actively engaged in the duties of his office, in the discharge of which he is strenuously supported by the Minister Some changes in the revenue department have always been effected and some public defaulters removed from their districts, which have been conferred on more worthy persons

4. It is supposed that the Minister and Chandoo Lall are examining the accounts of Raja Mahipat Ram, whose influence at Court had before prevented the regular examination and form audit of his accounts It is generally believed that a considerable balance will be authenticated against the Raja I have reason to imagine that this will be the case from two circumstances, which come to my knowledge sometime ago, but which I did not consider of sufficient importance to be obtruded on your notice One is that Raja Ragotim Rao about six weeks ago sent a message to the Soubahdar, stating that if His Highness would confer the appointment of Paishkar upon him only for a few days he would engage to produce a balance of nearly a crore of rupees against Mahipat Ram The other circumstance to which I allude is that after Mahipat Ram found it necessary to leave Hyderabad, he attempted to prevail upon the Minister to sign a Wajibool Arz but the stipulations of that paper were so absurd that the Minister very properly refused to ratify it Amongst the stipulations there were four very curious articles which show the habits of a Mootesuddie in a striking light, and convey some notion of the probable views of Mahipat Ram One article stipulated that the Raja's accounts either past or future should not be examined by the ordinary Mootesuddies nor examined by the Moostofi, the Officer of audit, whose signature is necessary to render every account valid Another article stipulated that the Raja should be absolute in the payment of the Sallidar Horse in Berar and in the dismissal and recruiting of Horsemen A third stipulated that Raja should come to this Capital once a year, to settle his annual accounts and a fourth was intended to bind the Minister not to condemn the Raja by any papers which did not bear the Raja's seal and signature

5 The objects of those several stipulations are sufficiently obvious Those stipulations would have placed Raja Mahipat Ram in a state of independence on the superior officers of the administration, that would have been perfectly inconsistent with the usual relations between the different parts of every regular Government, and they would have sheltered the Raja for all attacks on his loyalty and honesty By one article he could have robbed the treasury of its proper receipts without the possibility of detection, by another he could have deprived the soldiery of their pay, and have reduced the establishment, which he is bounded and paid for to maintain, without fear of complaint from the soldiers or apprehensions of redress from the Government, by the third article he would have enjoyed an opportunity every year to exert his personal influence over the Soubahdar to foster his intrigues to promote his ambitious views, and to screen him from a regular adjustment of his public accounts By the last singular stipulation, he might have carried on a clandestine correspondence, either with the external enemies of the State or the secret promoters of his designs at Court without fear of detection and consequent punishment

6 The second article of the stipulations which I have noticed seems to imply a consciousness of the irregularity of his accounts, and an apprehension of their examination by the usual officers of audit.

7 I understand that the part of his accounts is liable to objection on his charges for the 10 000 Silledar Horse in Berar. The monthly charge of that establishment is five lakhs of rupees to be deducted from the revenues of Berar. It would appear that the Raja has debited the Government for three months' pay to that establishment and cannot produce any receipt or other vouchers to prove that any part of that disbursement took place.

8 As I have had occasion to mention this Silledar Establishment it may be interesting to you to be informed of the real state of that arrangement. Raja Mahipat Ram undertook to raise and maintain 10,000 Silledar Horse out of the revenues of Berar. The monthly expense of the establishment being calculated at 5 lakhs of rupees. He is permitted to give himself credit for that sum in the accounts of the province. There has been a statement submitted to the Minister of the existence of that establishment but it seems to me to be merely a statement of troops which were already in Berar, and which were brought together under the name of a Silledar Establishment. With the exception of an inconsiderable levy since the arrangement took effect the whole body appears to me to be the old troops under a new designation and consequently there is no increase of the military force nor any amelioration of it. The whole number is divided into 10 bodies of one thousand men each under the respective command of the following officers —

- (1) Nabob Ussuroodowlah
- (2) Bhyrum Jung
- (3) Nabob Mohammed Salabat Khan
- (4) Mohammed Namdar Khan the son of Salabat Khan.
- (5) Hudroodowlah
- (6) Subhan Khan
- (7) Ghulam Hyder Ali Khan
- (8) Saleh Mohammed Khan
- (9) Mohammed Raja Khan
- (10) Not yet filled up

9 I shall take an opportunity of conversing with the Minister on the subject of this establishment not in the manner of a formal proposal but merely as a subject of conversation and I shall endeavour if I can with propriety, to recommend some measures to authenticate the existence of the establishment and to provide for its regular maintenance.

10 My opinion of the proposal for the maintenance of a Silledar Establishment when that question was unsuccessfully agitated with this Government was that no establishment of that or any other description of Military force could be effective unless the direction, control and payment of the force are entrusted to an European Officer of rank and credit. It would even have been necessary in my judgment that the Provinces from which the force was to be maintained should be managed by an European Officer. This arrangement which I should consider indispensable to the permanent efficiency of the Silledar Establishment not being at any time within the scope of our views it appeared to me that any other arrangement however modified or ostensibly approved by this Court would never have answered the permanent accomplishment of the Governor General's wishes for the amelioration of the Military force, of

is Government Under this impression I cannot flatter myself with the expectation that any suggestions of mine to the Minister will be attended with the effect of rendering the Silledar Establishment materially superior to the usual description of Military force in this country. At the same time I have no doubt that if a proper system to ensure the regular mustering and payment of the establishment were laid down and preserved in the Silledar Establishment it will be more effective than if left to the entire discretion of Mahipat Ram and the subordinate officers of that force

11 I should propose that the bodies, under the different commanders of one thousand, should be regularly mustered and that the muster rolls detailing every man's name should be countersigned by the commander and sent to the Minister, that the assignment of revenue should be recorded by Raja Mahipat Ram and sent by him to the Minister, that the receipts of the orders of assignment and the payment of them should be authenticated by the aumils on whom the assignments may be made, and sent to the Revenue Officer at Hyderabad, and lastly that receipts of payment should be required monthly from the different officers commanding small parties and countersigned by the Commanders of one thousand Such a system appears to me to be the only likely to ensure the regular payment of the troops, on which their efficiency entirely depends, and would enable the Minister to check the accounts of Raja Mahipat Ram without tedious alterations

12 I have no expectations that such a system would be rigidly followed by the Government, or that it would prevent all collusive practices amongst the superior and subordinate officers of the Establishment but I think it might be attended with some beneficial consequences on the general maxim that to ameliorate a bad system, it is always necessary to carry into the arrangement the principles of a good one

Letter No 17 —Sydenham gives an account of his interview with the Nizam to whom he reported that the territories to the east of the Wardha need not be ceded to the Bhonsla He proposed that a reform of the State currency might be attempted, and the Nizam agreed to the proposal

FROM—T SYDENHAM, RESIDENT AT HYDERABAD,

TO—THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL, FORT WILLIAM

Hyderabad, the 3rd June 1801

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of two dispatches from the Secretary in the Political Department, conveying to me your instructions relative to the proposed cession of the districts east of the River Wardha and to the final decision of the supreme Government on the mode of supplying this Treasury with money

2 I have the honour to report to you that I yesterday waited by appointment on His Highness the Soubahdar, for the purpose of making the necessary communications on both those subjects

3 I did not expect that the Soubahdar would feel the least offended at the refusal of Raja Raghojee Bhonsla to accept the districts east of the Wardha with the exception of the Wardha, in the form of a Jagheer from this State, as it was natural to suppose that His Highness would feel only gratified at the retention of property with which he seemed to part with such reluctance However, I put the matter in the following grounds as they appeared to me to be the most flattering to His Highness's pride and prejudices.

4 I said that Rala Raghojee Bhonsla seemed to consider the cession as one of too confined a nature by which I supposed he might allude to the exception of the fort and district of Amnair but as the Governor General after being informed of the peculiar circumstances which prevented His Highness from parting with that possession could not think of urging a point to which His Highness had been pleased to attach such importance and so much of hereditary dignity the Governor General in consideration of His Highness's feelings had determined to drop the subject, and had now only to return his acknowledgments to His Highness for the cheerfulness and liberal spirit with which he had consented to a personal sacrifice for the promotion of the general interests of the alliance. I then availed myself of the occasion to impress upon His Highness's mind an adequate sense of the disinterested policy of the British Government in proposing the cession and of its delicacy and regard for His Highness's dignity in the relinquishment of that proposal. I conveyed suitable acknowledgments to His Highness for the wisdom with which he had comprehended and the liberality with which he embraced the proposal. I had formerly conveyed to him from the Governor General and I complimented His Highness on this additional testimony of his sincere regard and disinterested friendship for the Honble Company.

5 His Highness appeared much pleased at this communication and seemed solicitous to make a reply in suitable terms of compliment but after some minutes of consideration he looked at the Minister who immediately made a reply for His Highness in a very eloquent and appropriate manner.

6 After some general conversation I introduced the second subject. I had to communicate to His Highness briefly and explained the causes of the loss and inconvenience which had been sustained by the British Government in its removal to this place for the payment of the subsidiary force and I communicated to His Highness the arrangement which the Governor General had proposed to prevent the recurrence of that loss. I then requested His Highness would be pleased to direct the Minister to comply with that arrangement the details of which I should hereafter discuss with the Minister and the Paishkar.

7 The Minister observed that no loss was sustained at present by the troops replied that though the troops did not suffer any loss at present it was impossible after that had been experienced to ascertain how long that inconvenience could be put off as it was evident that the state of the currency depended more upon the combinations of the moneyed men than upon any arrangements which the Government could make. The Minister admitted this but said he was desirous in effect such a reform in the coin as should render the currency less subject to fluctuations that His Highness the Sonnahdar was equally solicitous to accomplish that important object and that although his former attempt had not succeeded he was desirous to renew it in a form less liable to failure. His Highness expressed his earnest anxiety to introduce a radical reform in the currency but was not informed of any certain mode of effecting it. The Minister observed that the combinations of the moneyed men in the city were so formidable and that the evil had lasted so long and had increased to such a degree it would be difficult to apply an adequate remedy to it but he was desirous of giving the subject his full consideration before the introduction of the arrangement which I had proposed should take place. The Minister said that as a preparatory (sic) step to the proposed reform all new coinage had been prohibited and that no money had been coined for the last fourteen months. If the coinage of debased money were renewed especially to the monthly extent which the Company would require for the payment of the subsidiary force his whole plan would be subverted and the evil would increase in proportion to the influx of the new debased currency into the market.

the native commissioned officers in the service and that the latter have employed the discontent which existed among the Sepoys to incite them to disaffection and mutiny

4 Although the enquiries of the Minister and myself have been actively prosecuted in every quarter and although from much relative evidence and strong presumptive proof I have the most perfect and serious conviction of the treachery of some of our native officers and of the existence between them and some Omrahs in this capital of a connection of a most hostile and dangerous nature yet I can advance no conclusive evidence of the fact nor can I substantiate any positive guilt against any particular person either in the city or in the cantonment

5 The great extent and straggling situation of the city and its outskirts and of the cantonments the continual intercourse which must of necessity be carried on between them and the secrecy with which a treacherous correspondence would be carried on render it almost impossible that the emissaries either of the city or cantonment should be intercepted or detected. Indeed it is possible that whatever plans might have been concocted were carried on with great mystery and profound secrecy before the slightest symptom of discontent or disaffection had manifested itself to the force and consequently before any enquiries were commenced since the period when the discontent of the troops appeared by the measures proposed and adopted by Colonel Montresor and that the most active enquiries have been prosecuted both by that officer and myself the persons who might have been chiefly implicated in hostile designs have observed such strict prudence and precaution as almost to defy the possibility of detection. But that there are persons in the force guilty of the most unprovoked and abandoned treachery and persons in the city who expected and were ready to assist a general insurrection commenced with the same horrid circumstances as were exhibited at Vellore I cannot suffer my mind to entertain the slightest doubts

6 After comparing and carefully digesting all the information which had reached me I have been convinced of the necessity of at least seizing and exposing these persons against whom strong suspicions of guilt existed as a salutary lesson to the other native officers of the force and as a serious warning to those of the Sepoys as may have permitted their fidelity and allegiance to be tampered with to separate the guilty from the innocent and to convince the native troops that when we are ready to conciliate their affection by frankly conceding such points as may be offensive to their habits and religious prejudices we are at the same time determined to disagree and punish those who may have employed the apprehension of the troops in the prosecution of the most wicked and treacherous designs

7 Under the impression of these memorandums which I sent to Colonel Montresor and a copy of which I have the honour to enclose for Your Lordship's notice in the present dispatch

8 In doing this it was my intention that Colonel Montresor should be in possession of my sentiments and opinions founded on the result of the enquiries which I had prosecuted at the same time to leave him at perfect liberty to determine from his personal and more intimate knowledge of the state of the force under his command what measures it might be just or prudent to adopt against those native officers who were so strongly suspected of having taken a leading part in the late disaffection and disturbances in the Subsidiary Force

9 From the copy of Colonel Montresor's reply which is enclosed for Your Lordship's information Your Lordship will perceive what measures the Colonel deemed it expedient to adopt on the occasion. Those

measures were carried into execution with great judgment and skill this morning and I am well assured will be followed by the happiest effect on the minds of the troops at large

10 In the course of our enquiries into the nature and extent of that suspected combination between the city and the cantonment it appeared that certain persons had held several meetings and maintained an active correspondence to devise some means of removing the Prince Feredon Jah from the state of restraint in which he is held by His Highness the Nizam. Those persons were Narsinga Rao, Degumba Rao, two mootussuddies in the city and Narsiah a dealer and Venkaty Railoo and Kootunaigue who were formerly in the service of Major Dowse and Lieutenant-Colonel Seton in the cantonments. Two very suspicious letters without date or names and full of equivocal expressions were found on the Venkatarayloo and these papers after much enquiry led to the names of the several persons concerned and to a general notion to the object of their designs. The Minister, at my desire, seized and confined Digambo Rao and Narsinga Rao, while Colonel Montessor, secured the persons of Narsiah, Venkaterayloo and Kootenaigue. These persons were repeatedly examined both separately and together but after the strictest investigation it appeared that their intrigues were altogether absurd, that they were prosecuted without any authority from superior agents nearly four months before the slightest appearance of disturbance in the cantonment and that they were unconnected either with the causes or the effects of the late disaffection amongst the Native Troops

11 But as the conduct of the persons concerned in that intrigue was at least highly improper, and as it is necessary to repress and punish that spirit of cabal and clandestine correspondence which actuated the persons concerned, I have desired the Minister to confine Naiga Rao, Degumbah Rao and Narsiah in one of the Nizam's fortresses and I intend to send Venkatarialoo and Koolenaya down to Madras

12 Two other persons by name Hubeeb Oolah and Shaikh Tippoo have likewise been taken up on a suspicion of having been employed as emissaries between the city and cantonment. Habib Ullah once a sepoy in the 2nd Battalion, 9th Regiment is now in the service of Raja Rao Rumba. Shaikh Tippoo was formerly a servant of Captain Johnson and has since traded in the cantonment bazar. Both the persons are in charge of the commanding officer of my escort, and it is probable that I shall desire the Minister to confine Habib Ullah in one of the Nizam's fortresses and send Shaikh Tippoo back into the Company's territories

13 As soon as my enquiries and the intelligence received by Colonel Montessor tended to attach strong suspicions of guilt against Raja Rao Rumba and Noorul Omrah the former for secretly fomenting the disturbances in Camp and holding out the strongest temptation to the Native troops to rise against their European Officers and mutiny the latter for enticing away deserters from our Battalions, and concealing them in his Jagheer, I laid the whole of my information before the Minister and His Highness the Nizam, and left it to His Highness to adopt such measures as His Highness and the Minister might judge expedient for the dignity and security of the Government and the support of those interests which connect the two States

14 After much consultation His Highness resolved that Rajah Rao Rumba should be banished to his Jagheer and that Noorul Omrah should be deprived of his rank and estates and ordered to return to his native country near Delhi.

15 The only circumstance which has hitherto come to my knowledge to justify a suspicion that a connection might have subsisted between the Capital and Vellore is that the report of an Insurrection at Vellore was circulated amongst some persons at this place on the 12th of July which scarcely admits the possibility of the fact itself being known if the persons who circulated the report had not expected that a mutiny would take place at or about the period when it was actually carried into effect Upon this subject Colonel Montrossor will of course address himself more at length to the Chief Secretary of your Lordship's Government

16 With respect to the state of the cavalry of the Subsidiary Force justice to that invaluable Corps requires me to express my decided conviction of the allegiance, fidelity and steadiness of the two Regiments at this station I know that Lieut Colonel Doveton who to many other excellent qualities as an officer, adds the important acquisition of a complete and intimate knowledge of the sentiments, dispositions and characters of the men under his command never entertained the slightest suspicion of any want of attachment to the services amongst the men of the two Regiments at this station Indeed when he sounded the disposition of the men during the late disturbance he discovered that although the men were reluctant to be employed in enforcing the turbulent on the corps of infantry they at the same time evinced a determined resolution to do their utmost in repressing and punishing any insurrection Their conduct has throughout been orderly, quiet and steady and I have not heard of the slightest appearance of discontent having manifested itself amongst them

17 I shall have occasion to enter more fully into the whole of this important subject in the course of my correspondence with the Supreme Government copies of which will of course be regularly transmitted to Your Lordship In the meanwhile I considered that it would be interesting to Your Lordship to receive my sentiments and the result of my enquiries on the several points noticed by the Chief Secretary in his dispatch to the Acting Resident at Mysore

18 A copy of this letter with its enclosure will be immediately conveyed to the Honble the Governor General in Council

MEMORANDUM

Hyderabad 9th August 1806

1 From all the information which has been obtained of the nature and extent of the late alarming defection amongst the native troops of the subsidiary force it does appear to the Resident that much of the discontent and disaffection of the sepoys must be ascribed to the machinations of the native commissioned officers who instead of appeasing the ferment of the sepoys' minds, or of resisting and reporting to the European Officer the mutinous spirit of the men in their several Companies appear to have actively and industriously circulated the most injurious insinuations to have promoted and indeed first excited the discontent of the sepoys for the purpose of directing that spirit towards the accomplishment of the most wicked and treacherous acts

2 The persons to whom the Resident particularly alludes are Subedar Siddee Hussain Kadar Beg and Amir Ali of the 15th and Jamedar Shaikh Sultan of the 11th Regiment

3 Although no direct and positive proofs have been substantiated against those persons the Resident has the most perfect and serious conviction of their guilt (?) In the Resident's judgment the Subedar Siddee

2nd Subedars Siddie Hussain and Kadir Beg of the 1st Bn, 15th Regiment have been often pointed out to me as actively employed first in encouraging the discontents among the troops, and latterly in exciting them to mutiny. Omar Ali, though not so active as these two men is likewise reported to be a seditious character and from the evidence lately given by a deserter of that regiment which states these three Native Officers to be of the same mind and closely connected I cannot suppose him to be deeply implicated in their treachery. I have no proof against Shaikh Sultan of the 11th Regiment that he has been encouraging the disaffection among the troops nor do I hear anything to that effect from any officer of the Corps at the same time it is very possible he is guilty as there has been great reluctance shown by the few men of the 11th Regiment who have given information to mention any circumstance to the prejudice of their own officers or men.

3rd It is my opinion that Siddie Hussain and Kadir Beg deserve the severest punishment that can be inflicted on a soldier for mutiny and although I am confident they are in the highest degree guilty yet as no proofs have been substantiated against them it would far exceed the powers vested in me to act upon to what you deem necessary to be done viz to have them immediately and formally degraded. Were there a general insubordination among the troops and a mutinous spirit to show itself I would not hesitate to take upon myself the responsibility of assuming an extraordinary power which no doubt would be justified by the necessity of the case. I do not however think that necessity at present exists and although a severe example would certainly have a proper impression on the minds of the troops and tend much to curb any refractory spirit that may remain I have not sufficient proof against any man to make one. But it is my intention to have a general parade of the whole force when I mean to call the three Subedars to the front put them under arrest for endeavouring to excite the troops to mutiny and march them off in front of the whole line to Masulipatam.

4th I am sorry to observe there are so many of the Native officers against whom suspicions are entertained of their being implicated in the late conspiracy that were I as you suggest to march them all off to Masulipatam it might have the appearance of a persecution and the measure be attended with some risk. For it is very possible that suspicions may by an unlucky combination of circumstances have fallen in some instances upon the innocent. Besides I think a very few examples would have a good effect as there is every reason to hope that a great majority of this force is well disposed and as they seem every day to be more convinced of the impropriety of their late conduct it would probably be better not to irritate them by making many examples but let that turbulent and dangerous spirit which so lately raged subside of itself.

5th The constant and secret communication that exists between the Native Officers of this force and persons in the city known to be enemies to the Company, leaves little room to doubt that a hostile combination does exist and it is much to be regretted that your enquiries respecting it have not been attended with that success which you had a right to expect from them. But I hope the seizure of the Native Officers may lead to some discovery of the object of that combination as the sepoys over whose minds they are said to have had unbounded influence will no longer be overawed by their presence.

6th No proofs have come to my knowledge of a connection subsisting between the Mutineers at Vellore and the conspirators in this force but these are strong grounds to suspect that a reasonable correspondence did exist between them. I am induced to think so because the very same reports which were prevalent in the Carnatic were industriously spread

here They were of a nature to cause the greatest sensation of alarm in the minds of the Natives and evidently intended to excite them to adopt the most desperate measures You know how much reason we had to expect the same horrid scene to be acted here, as was performed with such unrelenting cruelty at Vellore The time too that the Mutiny broke out at Vellore, was that in which the greatest alarm prevailed here, and when but for the timely rescinding the obnoxious orders, it is probable this force would have been in a state of insurrection Here like at Vellore the Native Officers have been the active agents in fomenting the discontents among the troops and have been equally successful in obliging their numerous adherents to withhold all information relating to their treasonable designs

7th The secret connection that subsists between the Native Officers of the Subsidiary Force whose treacherous conduct is known, and several dangerous characters in the city, is a strong reason for suspecting there is but too much truth in the report so generally spread and credited, that Raja Rao Rumbo and Noorool Omrah have encouraged the disaffection among the troops, and endeavoured to prevail upon them to throw off their allegiance I am, therefore, convinced that nothing would tend so much to blast the hopes of the conspirators, and quiet the minds of the troops as measures being immediately taken against those Sirdars, which would strongly make the displeasure of His Highness the Nizam and at the same time put it out of their power to renew their dangerous intrigues

I have the honour to be,

HUSSAIN SAGAR

11th August 1806

Sir,

T G MONTRESSOR,

Colonel Commanding Subsidiary Force

Letter No 19.—Sydenham dwells upon at length the circumstances that had changed the attitude of the Nizam towards the Prime Minister Meer Allum and his Peshkar Raja Chandulal, and given an ascendancy to Raja Mahapat Ram and some others like the Nizam's foster brothers This was likely to affect adversely the relations between the Nizam and the Company and the Prime Minister might be overthrown. This was communicated by the Prime Minister to the Resident. The letter is very important since it explains the consequences of the pacific policy of Bailow and the inclination of the Nizam. It also throws light on the weaknesses of the Nizam. The two enclosures are relevant to the subject.

FROM—T SYDENHAM,

TO—THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL

Hyderabad, the 25th September 1806

1 I am concerned to be under the necessity of acquainting you that some circumstances have within these few days, occurred at this Court, which threaten to disturb the harmony and repose, which I have been so assiduous to establish, and from which I was led to expect such beneficial consequences These circumstances must be attributed to the unaccountable perverseness and caprice of His Highness the Nizam, whose sentiments and conduct are regulated by no fixed principle but are directed by a few ignorant vicious creatures who surround his person, and are permitted to control his actions

2 Unfortunately for the dignity of His Highness's station and the prosperity of his country these persons are in the pay and under the influence of Raja Mahipat Ram by whom they are successfully employed as convenient instruments to disturb the harmony of the State to forward his selfish views of personal aggrandizement and to take advantage of those sudden and extraordinary fits of caprice and passion which sometimes attribute to repeated intoxication and others to an horrid madness. If His Highness could be prevailed upon to retain about his person men of rank and character it is probable that the ebullition of his passion would be restrained and that many scenes which disgrace his rank and station might be avoided or might be prevented from becoming notorious. But His Highness by his capricious habits and by the confidence which he reposes in the low creatures about his person has driven away almost every man of condition and respectability whose places are supplied by men of the most abandoned character who scrupulously minister to all His Highness's passions and encourage all his eccentricities. The principal of these persons are His Highness's two foster brothers Asud Yar Jung and Isafir Yar Jung, Burkhundaze Khan and Rajdar Khan. The two former are ignorant low people of vulgar manner and dissolute habits. The last was a common sepoy when His Highness noticed from his dexterity in shooting and who was brought into favour when he undertook to shoot the late Minister. These persons are never permitted to take their seats in my presence but on other occasions they are often invited to sit down and are honoured with the familiar conversation of His Highness while Omrahs of rank and character who are obliged to attend the Durbar occasionally are left to stand at a distance with an appearance of studied indignity.

3 These persons, like most of the low factious people of the city are determinedly hostile to the British Government and are consequently adverse to Meer Allum who perhaps unfortunately is above soliciting their interest by bribes or by personal attention. Although we must admire the feelings of a Minister who is superior to the degradation of attracting the favour of his sovereign by condescending to solicit the interest of His Highness's abandoned associates we cannot help lamenting that the Minister should not adopt some steps to avert the hostility of men who however low are capable of exercising a very dangerous influence over the mind of the Nizam. These men are in the habit of exercising a low vulgar evil of the English of alarming His Highness by our power of exciting the hopes of His Highness to expel us from the Deccan, of extolling the bribery and exaggerating the actions of Holkar and Sindia, of prompting His Highness to resist over proposition of the British Government of abusing the Minister and his adherents and of calling them the partizans (turfdars) of the English of eulogizing Mahipat Ram and his associates and of paying His Highness the most strained and fulsome compliments on his sagacity wisdom and courage.

4 Since the signing of the Wajibool Arz and the departure of Mahipat Ram the conduct of His Highness the Nizam has been comparatively so uniform and steady and the Government has in consequence proceeded with such regularity and efficiency that I ventured to anticipate the most favourable consequences from this amelioration of the condition of the Government. The Minister and the Paishkar who acted in union have not only discharged the duties of their respective stations with increased vigour and popularity but have manifested the strongest disposition to obtain the favour and confidence of the Nizam. The Minister has not only abstained from drawing upon the Treasury of His Highness but within these three months has presented His Highness with 21 lakhs of rupees and has given up an anna upon every rupee of his established perquisites as a free gift to His Highness. The Nizam on his part seemed to be pleased with the conduct and liberality of his Minister has bestowed many

favours on Raja Chandu Lal and has treated Meer Allum with unusual courtesy and respect. This pleasing aspect of affairs continued till with the last four days since when the Nizam suddenly and most unexpectedly changed his conduct, has treated Raja Chandu Lal with great indignity, has broken out into the most indecent passion and has menaced the life of Meer Allum. I will now endeavour, as far as the whims and perverseness of His Highness's capricious and obstinate temper, will admit to trace the causes of this extraordinary and sudden change.

5 Even since the departure of Mahipat Ram, that person has been endeavouring to regain his influence over His Highness's mind and to effect his return to the Capital. For this purpose he has carried on a clandestine correspondence with His Highness, which His Highness has unfortunately too much encouraged to the infinite prejudice of that confidence, which ought to exist between a sovereign and his principal Minister. Soon after Mahipat Ram's arrival at Basim, I heard but not from Meer Allum, that Mahipat Ram, with the sanction of the Nizam, had despatched two messengers to Sindia and Holkar. It was once said that the messenger to Holkar carried with him a string of pearls, and some other ornaments as a present to that Chieftain. We have since discovered that Mahipat Ram has entered into a very suspicious correspondence with Salabat Khan, which circumstance I have already noticed in a private despatch to Mr Edmonstone. Whatever might have been the object of Mahipat Ram's proposals to Salabat Khan, they are certainly liable to strong suspicions. 1st Because they were made without the knowledge of Meer Allum, and secondly, because they were immediately withdrawn as soon as Salabat Khan had expressed his resolution not to engage in any plan which might be injurious to the British Government. My sentiments on this subject will be fully developed in a separate dispatch to Mr Edmonstone to whom I shall transmit copies of the Enayat Namah of His Highness the Nizam, of the several letters written by Raja Mahipat Ram to Salabat Khan and of a statement of Salabat Khan's respecting the subject. I have lately learnt from good authority that similar proposals were made to the other Mussalman Chiefs in the Province of Berar, and that they have signed a deed or Ekrar Namah, binding themselves to obey unconditionally all the orders of Raja Mahipat Ram. The whole of this transaction is certainly liable to suspicion from the causes which I have before stated. For there can be no reason for so unusual a procedure, adopted with the greatest mystery and secrecy, without the privity of the Minister of the Government, if the object of it were not to be directed against the British Government or at least the subversion of Meer Allum's influence and authority.

6 With regard to the late measures which have been adopted by this Government towards Raja Rao Rumba and Noorul Omrah, His Highness the Nizam seemed to enter with great warmth and anxiety in the advice and recommendation of his Minister. He evinced a becoming appearance of regret and the suspicions which were established against persons of rank in his service, he seemed to be alarmed at the dangers which menaced the interests by which he was united with the British Government, he exceeded every reasonable degree of precaution by the measures which he adopted for his personal security, he evinced a flattering anxiety for the safety of the Minister by sending a body of troops to the Minister's residence, he deliberated with his Ministers and myself on the measures which the misconduct of his Officers rendered it expedient to adopt, and after many days' consideration he finally determined to remove Raja Rao Rumba to his Jagheer and to dismiss Noorul Omrah from his service. During this transaction he exercised with (indistinct) and independence the prerogative of a sovereign with being pressed or hurried

by any urgency or earnestness on any part. Indeed I purposely objected a punctilious neutrality and refrained from specifying any line of conduct, or expressing any sentiments which might have appeared to influence His Highness's determination. I have scarcely any doubt that if I had chosen to influence His Highness's determination by my sentiments and advice both Rao Rumba and Noorul Omrah would have been confined in Golkundah but I restrained the precipitate and decided judgment of Meer Allum and Chirindu Lal and immediately acceded to the lenity with which His Highness was disposed to treat Raja Ran Rumba. His Highness made his personal acknowledgment to me for the manner in which I consulted his wishes and during the interview which took place on the occasion when His Highness sent for me to consult with me on the subject of that transaction treated me with unusual politeness and familiarity.

7 Noorul Omrah was permitted to remain in his tents near the forests of Golkundah in order that he might collect his family, dispose of his effects, settle the balances due to his troops and make the necessary arrangements for the prosecution of his journey. He was considerably in debt to some Soucars in the city he had to account for the large balances due to the Government and his troops were much in arrears. I do not know what composition he made with his private creditors but Meer Allum thought it inexpedient and useless to require the payment of his balances to the Government and his troops after putting him and his sons in *Dharna* and many violent quarrels obtained some portion of their arrears and took service in the parties of other Chieftains. A small party of Horse men and Sepoys who came from the same place in Hindustan and were personally attached to him continued to remain with him. During this period Noorul Omrah was actively employed in soliciting the favour of the Nizam the Begums interceded for him but His Highness paid no attention to their solicitations. It is said that Sheyarudoula from their mutual connection with the late Ministers employed his good offices in Noorul Omrah's favour but of this I have obtained no certain intelligence. Noorul Omrah was not negligent in securing the interposition of the poster brothers and other men immediately about His Highness's person. He likewise addressed himself to Mahipat Ram and received from Mahipat Ram a grant at the Capital the sum of 30 000 rupees as a relief to his immediate necessities. He also received a letter from Mahipat Ram assuring him that he might remain perfectly at ease as he had no doubt of influencing the Nizam to receive Noorul Omrah into favour and to re-admit him into the service of the State.

8 It was during this period that I waited by appointment on the Nizam to meet the Poona Vakeel. During the whole of my interview His Highness was particularly cheerful and courteous to the Poona Vakil, Mir Allum and myself. His Highness did not mention a word of Noorul Omrah. From all that I heard or saw I supposed that His Highness continued in his former Resolution of ordering Noorul Omrah to return to his Native Country. On one occasion Meer Allum asked me whether I thought it expedient to permit Noorul Omrah to remain in these territories as His Highness appeared to be disposed to relieve his present distress. I enquired whether there was any disposition on His Highness to restore Noorul Omrah to his former condition in the service. The Mir replied certainly not. I then remarked that I thought it would be impolitic to retain Noorul Omrah in these territories under a restricted salary and in a state of comparative distress and degradation to his former condition. At the same time I saw no objection to His Highness's making an handsome present of money to Noorul Omrah to defray the expense of his journey and to confer upon him a personal Jagheer sufficient to prevent his being driven to distress in his Native country. The Minister replied that he perfectly agreed with me and nothing further on this subject ensued.

9. I thought no more of Noorul Omrah, and conceived that he was about to commence his journey, when I received the note (Marked No 1, copies and translation of which accompanies this dispatch) from the Minister. I confess the tenor of this note surprized me a good deal and I sent to the Minister to enquire what it meant, as the same circumstances had already been officially communicated to me, with the exception of the resolution relative to Noorul Omrah, which was completely different from the former one, and which was now conveyed to me as an original resolution without any reference to what had already occurred.

10. I found on enquiry that His Highness had suddenly sent for Raja Chandu Lal and put into his hands a draft of a note to be written by the Minister to me. Chandu Lal brought it to the Minister who immediately objected to it and stated that the original determination of His Highness relative to Noorul Omrah had been officially conveyed to the Resident, and that if His Highness were pleased to resolve that Noorul Omrah should remain in these territories, it was proper that it should be communicated to the Resident as a resolution, subsequent to the original one. Chandu Lal returned to His Highness and represented the objections of the Minister to the draft which His Highness had prepared. His Highness broke out into a violent passion and ordered a note to be immediately wrote to the Resident according to the draft. There were no persons present but the foster brothers, Burkhundaze Khan and some menial servants. His Highness turned to them and asked whether that was not a proper draft and whether the letter should not be written in those terms. They immediately assented and Chandu Lal was abruptly dismissed to execute His Highness's orders.

11. It occurred to me that I ought to notice the extraordinary tenor of the note and to bring to His Highness's recollection that he had deliberately resolved to dismiss Noorul Omrah from His service, in consequence of these circumstances, which had been submitted by me to His Highness's consideration, that I considered the present resolution to be impolitic and inexpedient and I therefore recommended that Noorul Omrah should be ordered to leave Hyderabad according to His Highness's original determination. Under this impression I prepared and dispatched the note marked No 2.

12. Two days afterwards the Minister sent a message to me requesting that I would call upon him. I accordingly waited upon the Minister and found Raja Chandu Lal with him. The Minister desired Chandu Lal to relate to me what had occurred when he submitted to His Highness the Arzee which contained my reply. Chandu Lal related that His Highness was sitting in an upper apartment of the Palace, apparently intoxicated and attended by his foster brothers and Burkhundaze Khan. My note was read sentence by sentence at the end of every one of which His Highness betrayed a violent passion and made use of many abusive and improper expressions. At the end of that sentence in which I observed that I had already received from the Meer an official communication of His Highness's determination relative to Noorul Omrah and the rest of the persons mentioned and that I had immediately conveyed it to the Governor-General, His Highness observed, what is that to me that (the Resident) received such a communication. Of course he did and he wrote it to the Governor-General, for every Resident is an Akhbar Navees. Where I mention that Noorul Omrah received the formality of his dismissal, His Highness exclaimed, what is that to the Resident. I may give an hundred Paundauns of leave in a day, and take them back again, if such be my pleasure. At my observation that His Highness's new resolution might be hurtful to the dignity and interests of his State, he said who is to judge of my interests and dignity but myself how do they concern the Resident. If I choose to hurt and degrade myself I alone can suffer from it, it is of no consequence to any other person. These senseless and improper observations were regular.

ly applauded by the abject creatures who surrounded His Highness's person, and who seemed to triumph in the debasement of their Master and Sovereign Chandu Lal who was much terrified at the tone and manner of the Nizam mildly observed that Meer Allum would explain the letter to His Highness in such a manner as would no doubt convince His Highness of the propriety of my advice. His Highness then broke out into rancorous abuse against Meer Allum and said that Meer Allum might come if he chose but that he should take care how he came into the presence and that he had better look to himself. Chandulal was happy to be dismissed from so unpleasant and degrading a scene and hurried to the Ministers to relate what had occurred. I enquired of Chandu Lal whether the observations of His Highness were intended by His Highness to be conveyed to me to which Chandulal replied that assuredly they were not, and Meer Allum added that he only wished me to hear them in order that I might form a more accurate judgment of the present temper and disposition of His Highness.

13 After this the Minister expressed a desire to have a private conversation with me and I accordingly went with him into an interior apartment upon having stated ourselves he addressed me to the following effect

14 The circumstances which you have just heard from Chandu Lal are so unexpected and extraordinary that it is incumbent upon me to lay before you all the circumstances which have produced this unpleasant change as well as to communicate to you such information as may enable your Government to form a comprehensive and accurate judgment of the general state of affairs of this Court in order that it may be better able to decide upon the nature of the measures which appear to me to be necessary to restore the connection between the two states to its original vigour and efficiency. The present Nizam has always entertained and seldom failed to express the most inveterate jealousy of the British power and of its particular influence over the councils of this State. When a Prince he reprobated the conduct of his father and the late Minister in placing this Government under the influence of the English and in addition to his personal enmity towards the late Minister he detested him as a creature of the British Government and considered him to be a traitor to the Asaphlah State. Before his accession to the throne Mahipat Ram then the Serishtadar of Monsieur Raymond was his most intimate and confidential friend and adviser who supplied his wants and relieved his necessities who paid him the most flattering attention coincided in all his sentiments and indulged his hatred of the English name. His Highness remembering with a degree of gratitude which is unusual to him the attention and assistance of the only man who relieved his wants and courted his favour while he was neglected and in obscurity and who even then flattered him with the expectation of subverting the influence and power of the British Government continues to place the most implicit confidence in Raja Mahipat Ram and regard the Raja as his best and only friend. There can be no doubt that His Highness came to the throne with a pre-determination to extricate himself from the controlling influence of the British Government and that it is still the prevailing and favourite object of his most anxious desire. On his first accession to the throne there were insurmountable objections to the accomplishment of his wishes—the high authority and extensive influence of the late Minister the decided interposition of the late Resident and the general system of Lord Wellesley's Government. To these circumstances may be added the novelty of His Highness's situation and the successful war with the confederated Mahratta Chieftains by which His Highness obtained an important acquisition of territory and a considerable increase of revenue. Under this combination of circumstances it was impossible that His Highness should manifest either by his conduct or expressions any hostility or indisposition towards the British Government. During the progress and after the termination of a most successful war with very inferior numbers against the confederated Mahratta Chieftains in the Deccan and in Hindustan it must have appeared hopeless even to the

ignorant and sanguine mind of His Highness to make any attempt against the formidable power of the English either by open aggression or secret intrigue. But even at that period His Highness would have been rejoiced if you had been defeated in which case he would have readily combined with the Mahrattas to complete your defeat and expulsion. Of late many circumstances have been represented to His Highness in such a way as to produce in his mind a conviction, that your resources are exhausted, and that you are as incapable as you are unwilling to undertake another war. The emissaries of Ghatkey and Holkar, who are spread throughout the whole of India are active in representing the termination of the late war as a signal proof of the prowess of Holkar and the defeat of the English. A few sensible men know the contrary, but the body of the people give full credit to the falsehood of Holkar's emissaries. It is likewise generally believed that Holkar and Sindia will soon meet to concert the plan of a new war and that their immediate view are directed towards Berar. Those impressions have been received with implicit confidence by the Nizam who has been taught to believe that the present is a most favourable opportunity to throw the control of the British Government and to establish the perfect and exclusive independance of the Asophiah State. Raja Mahipat Ram and Ragotim Rao have exerted all their influence and talents to convince the Nizam of the weakness of the British Government and of the practicability of removing that control by which he is restricted in his foreign relations with the other Native States. It has been pointed out to His Highness that Dowlat Rao Sindia, who was bounded by similar engagements to those by which His Highness himself is connected with the British Government had succeeded in liberating himself from his alliance, has gained an accession of territory by the violation of his engagements and has recovered his independance. It has also been suggested to him that the British Government has no longer the capability of punishing the infraction of engagements, of which it was formerly so punctilious, and that Holkar has received and encouraged Serjee Rao Ghautky in open violation of a particular stipulation of Treaty.

15 Meer Allum enlarged upon all these topics and interspersed them with many anecdotes to illustrate and confirm his remarks. But the object of this part of his discourse was to show me that His Highness the Nizam had long fostered a jealousy and hatred of the English that he could avail himself of the first favourable opportunity of manifesting his hostility, and that the present had been pointed out to him as an excellent occasion to commence a system of obstinate resistance against every proposal of the British Government and every suggestion and opinion of the British Resident.

16 I interrupted the Minister to observe that I supposed he was sufficiently convinced of the absurdity of the impressions stated to have been received by His Highness to render it unnecessary for me to show him how ridiculous they were. The Minister replied that he had no doubt of their absurdity, but as long as they were confidently received by the Soubahdar they were calculated to produce the most serious evils. The harmony and confidence of the two States, which has proved the safety of the Nizam's Government was liable to be interrupted, all the original object of the alliance were exposed to ruin, and His Highness may be led on step by step, by the advice of ignorant prejudiced counsellors to forgo the friendship of the English, and to bring ruin on himself and his family.

17 I enquired whether His Highness had been rash enough to adopt any measure by the advice of those men, which afforded any proof of his hostility against the British Government. The Minister replied that he had no doubt that His Highness had sanctioned a correspondence with Holkar and Ghatky of which the object was decidedly hostile to the British Government. That the last Arzee which His Highness had received from

Mahipat Ram contained two letters to His Highness one from Holkar and the other from Serjee Rao Ghatky. I enquired whether the Minister could depend upon the authenticity of this intelligence. The Minister immediately in a solemn manner assured me that neither he nor Chandu Lal could have any doubt of the fact of Holkar and Ghatky's letters having been received by His Highness and having been read to His Highness by Ismail Yar Jung. I asked whether these letters preceded in the first instance from Holkar and Ghatky or whether they were replies to former letters from His Highness or written by His Highness's orders. The Minister answered that he supposed them to be replies to the letters which Raja Mahipat Ram had by the orders of His Highness addressed to Holkar and Ghatky. The Minister likewise stated that two letters had been received from Dowlat Rao Sindia one to His Highness, and the other as far as I can recollect to himself. That these were formal letters and which he supposed would be communicated to me, but that the messengers were likewise charged with two private letters one to the Nizam and the other to the Buckshee Begum which had been delivered and received.

18. The Minister then resumed the subject of his discourse and stated 'The last Arzee, which Mahipat Ram wrote and which enclosed the two letters from Holkar and Ghatky referred principally to the late measures which had been adopted against Rao Rumba and Noorul Omrah. It represented that Raja Rao Rumba was one of the oldest and most faithful of His Highness's officers who merited His Highness most implicit and unbounded confidence and support. That Noorul Omrah was devoted to His Highness and was inimical only to Meer Allum and the English. That Meer Allum was concerned in a plot with the English to remove gradually every officer of rank and consequence from the service of His Highness to establish the supremacy of the British Government and to overturn His Highness's State. That are rumours of a disaffection in the subsidiary force and of a combination between the Mutineers and Rao Rumba and Noorul Omrah were only a specious pretext in effect the removal of those faithful servants whom Meer Allum and the English had not been able to bring over to their views. That if His Highness consented to the dismissal of Noorul Omrah we should next find some pretence to expel Sheyaroodoullah Shemsool Omrah Umjudnol Moolk and every man of rank who was attached to His Highness's State. That if Noorul Omrah should be dismissed every other Chieftain would relinquish the cause of his sovereign and would be induced from motives of self preservation to adopt the views of the British Government. Mahipat Ram therefore entreated His Highness if he had any regard for his faithful servant for his independence dignity and safety to oppose the dismissal of Noorul Omrah to retain the Chieftain in the service and to insist upon it in spite of Meer Allum's advice and the Resident's opinion. Mahipat Ram assured His Highness that he might with great safety insist on anything he chose in opposition to the wishes of the Resident as the British Government was exhausted and fearful of provoking the enmity of any of the Native States and as the Resident was ordered to comply with all the wishes of His Highness. Mahipat Ram employed many other arguments to prove the necessity of retaining Noorul Omrah the weakness of the British Government and the impolicy of conceding any point to the British Resident. It was this Arzee supported by the letters from Holkar and Ghatky which produced so sudden a revolution in the mind of His Highness who immediately consulted with his foster brothers Burkundaze Khan and Razdar Khan. These persons were of course prepared to applaud the good advice and fidelity of Mahipat Ram and it was determined that His Highness should immediately order the Minister to communicate to me His Highness's resolution to retain Noorul Omrah. It was likewise resolved that His Highness should not be at the trouble to assign any reasons for his wish to restore Noorul Omrah to the service and that if the Resident should

oppose that measure His Highness should insist upon it as an uncontrollable act of his prerogative. In short continued Meer Allum, these are the circumstances of the case. His Highness deliberately resolves to dismiss Noorul Omrah from his service in consequence of the information laid before him by the British Resident. Mahipat Ram interferes, alarms and misleads His Highness by the most malignant falsehoods, and His Highness without consulting any person of rank or respectability without receiving the opinions of his Ministers, and without any previous intimation to the Resident, suddenly determines to retain Noorul Omrah in his service. If, added the Minister, His Highness's obstinacy and caprice were confined to this step, the consequences would not be so great, but this is only the preliminary to further and more important opposition. If Mahipat Ram triumphs in retaining Noorul Omrah, Rao Rumba will be recalled, Sureput Ram will be sent for, Seetul Dass will be countermanded from Berar, Chandu Lal will be dismissed and disgraced, and I myself may fall a sacrifice to the folly of my Master and the malignity of my enemies.

19. I replied to the Meer that I was seriously concerned to learn that Mahipat Ram could exercise so dangerous an ascendancy over the weak and ignorant mind of the Nizam, as from all that I had seen and heard, I was fearful that his ascendancy would be employed to direct the views and conduct of the Nizam, to objects incompatible with those solemn obligations of good faith, friendship and gratitude by which he was connected with the British Government. I was also concerned to observe that the confidence and good understanding, which I had been at such pains to establish between him and the Nizam, should be liable to be interrupted and destroyed by the constant interference of Raja Mahipat Ram. With regard to Noorul Omrah His Highness had no doubt a right to restore that Chieftain to the service, though we might justly complain of the very ungracious and improper way in which His Highness's resolution was communicated, and though we might lament that it did not proceed from His Highness's own deliberations but was owing to the false and malicious insinuations of Mahipat Ram. If His Highness in the first instant had manifested any disposition, to retain Noorul Omrah or to nullify the severity of his punishment, I certainly should have offered no opposition to His Highness's pleasure. However as His Highness had himself assured me of his desire to dismiss Noorul Omrah, I should expect to receive from His Highness some explanation of the causes of so sudden and unexpected a change in his disposition towards Noorul Omrah, and I therefore requested the Minister to represent to His Highness my anxiety for an audience, which I was desirous of procuring as soon as possible. But I observed that this point about Noorul Omrah was of trifling consideration when compared with what he had stated respecting the conduct and views of Mahipat Ram and the correspondence between Holkar and Ghautkay and His Highness the Nizam.

20. Meer Allum replied that Raja Mahipat Ram, with the knowledge, sanction and authority of the Nizam, was engaged in a clandestine correspondence with Holkar, Ghatkay and Sindia, of which the object was most hostile to the alliance between the Nizam and the Company, and to the interests and power of the Company. It may be said that the Nizam can without impropriety write friendly letters to Holkar and Sindia, who are at peace with the Company. But why is the correspondence carried on with such cautious secrecy through Mahipat Ram? Why are not the public Ministers of his Government employed in writing and receiving the letters? Why is the circumstance of the correspondence concealed from the British Resident? The answer is that His Highness and Mahipat Ram know that I am faithfully attached to the combined interests of the two States that I consider them as inseparable and that I would from policy and honour, resist any procedure which was irreconcilable with the obligations by which His Highness is bounded to the British Government.

21 I asked the Minister whether it was completely out of his power to conciliate the Nizam and obtain from His Highness that share of confidence which should enable him to impress His Highness with a proper conception of his real interests as well as of the duties which resulted from the solemn obligations of a treaty and of gratitude for the liberal and disinterested friendship of the British Government. The Minister replied that as long as he continued to adhere to those principles, by which he had always regulated his conduct it was impossible that he should ever obtain the confidence of the Nizam. His Highness considered every man to be his enemy who was attached to the British Government and every man to be his friend who was hostile to the British Government in direct contradiction of his engagements by which he is bounden to consider the friends and enemies of one to be the friends and enemies of the other. It is therefore impossible that as long as the Nizam labours under so erroneous so unjust and so dangerous an impression as long as he is decidedly hostile to the British Government His Highness should ever place confidence in me or listen to my counsels who actively promoted the present alliance, and am devoted from every consideration of policy honour and gratitude to that connection which His Highness is so anxious to dissolve. If continued Meer Allum I could so far forget my duty to the State of which I am nominally the principal Minister as to enter into the hostile views of the Nizam to promise to form a combination with the Mahrattas to dissolve the present alliance and to expel your nation from the Deccan and from India if I gratified the Nizam by a low contemptuous abuse of your Nation Government and religion I have no doubt of being able to procure the confidence and favour of my Sovereign but I leave you to judge whether I would submit to purchase his favour at such rate.

22 I enquired whether some sensible evil-disposed men such as Umjadool Mulk or Ithiasamul Moolk could not influence His Highness to receive a more appropriate conception of his interests and duty and to reject the absurd and malicious insinuations of Mahipat Ram the foster brothers and their associates. The Minister replied that Ithiasamul Moolk was disgusted with the conduct and disposition of the Nizam who was offended at his honesty and candour that Umjadul Moolk had once or twice given advice to the Nizam but the conduct of His Highness towards him was not likely to induce him to undertake so ungracious an office again.

23 Indeed I had heard that Umjadul Moolk had ventured to speak to the Nizam on the impropriety of suddenly altering his resolutions and on the unpolicy of treating the Minister and Chaudhul with indignity and of blindly opposing all the Resident's suggestions that the Nizam had been much offended by such unwelcome advice and had ceased to call Umjadool Moolk to his private councils. This information which I received from good authority the Minister confirmed.

24 I asked whether the Buckshi Begum would not interpose her advice to rescue the Nizam from the desperate counsels of Mahipat Ram and the malignant influence of His Highness's associates. The Minister replied that both the Buckshi Begum and Tyoutoo(?) Nissa Begum loudly complained of the capriciousness obstinacy and folly of the Nizam and were offended at the disrespectful demeanour of their son at his indecorum licentiousness and profligacy. In short added the Minister there is no person of rank or respectability in the city who (torn) displease His Highness and the (torn) detest him for his rapacity and. Indeed such is the feeling towards His Highness both in and out of the city that if you and I were to go to any other of the late Nizam's sons and present our Nazars the present Soubahdar would lose his throne amidst the acclamations of the people without a life being lost or sword drawn. His Highness owed his peaceable accession to his throne and the enjoyment of his undisturbed authority to the disinterested support and friendship of

the British Government and if the Subsidiary Force and your support were to be withdrawn, a Revolution in this Government would take place in the course of a week. Thus said the Minister does the Nizam owe the preservation of his dignity and authority to that very connection, which he is so anxious to dissolve. He is secretly endeavouring to undermine that very influence which made him a Monarch, and which alone could protect his authority.

25 The Minister then addressed me in a tone of unusual seriousness and solemnity and requested that I would submit at full length to the Governor-General all that he had said together with the sentiments which he was now about to express to me. "I owe," said the Minister, "my elevation to my present office to the favourable opinion which Lord Wellesley was pleased to entertain of my character and services. For nearly thirty years I have assiduously laboured to promote the dignity and safety of the Asophia State. I have held situations of great importance and I have been employed in services of delicacy and difficulty. I enjoyed the confidence of my late Sovereign, and the good opinion of the British Government. I know, and admire the character and policy of the British Government and since I have been the Minister of this State, my greatest anxiety has been to promote all the objects of alliance, by which this State is connected with the British Government. This anxiety independently of all personal motives prompts me to recommend to the Governor-General to take into his most serious consideration the state of affairs at this court, and to endeavour to rescue the Nizam, from the malignant influence of a few abandoned desperate men, by whom His Highness will otherwise be led to destruction. To effect the most desirable it will be necessary that I should be openly and vigorously supported by the British Government, that I should be invested with plenary powers by the Nizam and that those persons should be removed who stand between the Nizam and the British Government. Any measures short of these, will only tend to place me in difficulty and danger, without producing any amelioration in the condition of the affairs at this Court. Advice and remonstrance will be thrown away upon such a mind as the Nizam's or they will be counteracted by the evil influence of Mahipit Ram and the profligate associates of His Highness. I do not know how far, such decided interposition on the part of the British Government may be consistent with the change which has taken place in the political system of the Company, but I am confident that no other measure but that of decided interposition and the most vigorous control can check the progress of His Highness's disposition to relinquish all the benefits of the alliance with the Company and to abandon himself to the destructive friendship of Holkar and Ghautkay. If such measures as those I have recommended, be inconsistent in the present political system of the Company, I am truly concerned, but I perceive no other alternative than to leave His Highness to an uncontrolled exercise of his authority and to the guidance of a party who are all the rancorous enemies of the British Government. I beg", continued the Minister, "that my motive may not be misinterpreted. I am actuated by no other motive than the extreme anxiety which I feel for the interests of my own Sovereign as well as for those of the British Government. If my resignation can in any way promote the good understanding between the two States, I will willingly, relinquish my situation and retire either to the Company's Dominion or to the Tomb of the prophet where I shall continue to offer up my prayers for the prosperity of two Governments which it is my ambition and anxiety personally to promote."

26 After expressing these sentiments, by which he was much affected, the Minister appeared so exhausted that I found it necessary to propose that we should return to the exterior apartment which was more airy, and I shortly afterwards took my leave with a promise to submit all that had passed between us to the Governor-General.

27 I have endeavoured to fulfil my promise by stating as nearly as possible the substance of a conversation which occupied three hours. At the same time I am conscious that my account conveys a very inadequate notion of the vigour and eloquence of the Minister's discourse. The train of his opinions and arguments was often interrupted by anecdotes and remarks which served to illustrate the substance of his discourse but which I have not thought it necessary to obtrude upon your notice.

28 I have already ventured to occupy so much of your time by the extent of this dispatch that I shall conclude for the present and shall hereafter do myself the honour of detailing what has occurred respecting Noorul Omrah and of offering such observations and sentiments of my own as may assist your judgment in the consideration of the important subject of the Minister's discourse.

Translation of a note from the Minister to the Resident

Raja Rao Rumba Bhadur Noorul Omrah Bha-lur Degumba Pundit and Narsinga Rao having carried on a correspondence with the Native Troops in the British Service and information on this subject having been represented by the Resident to His Highness the Nizam Raja Rumba Bhadur has been ordered to retire to his Jagheer and Degumba Pundit and Narsinga Rao have been sent to the Fortress of Mulka. With respect to Noorul Omrah Bhadur it has been determined by His Highness that some place shall be pointed out where Noorul Omrah with his family and sons may remain.

These circumstances are communicated for your information.

Substance of the Resident's reply to the above note

I have the pleasure to receive your note (here recapitulate its contents). You did me the favour to communicate to me the determination of His Highness relative to Raja Rao Rumba Degumba Pundit and Narsinga Rao, on the day on which His Highness the Nizam was pleased to come to that determination, these circumstances are therefore not unknown to me and did not require a second communication, and on the same day which I received your first note I sent a copy of it to the Honble the Governor General. I confess I cannot understand why a new and unexpected arrangement relative to Noorul Omrah should now be communicated to me as an original resolution. You must remember that all the circumstances relative to the conduct of Raja Rao Rumba and Noorul Omrah were fully and specially represented to His Highness the Nizam and that after many days consideration it was finally resolved by His Highness that Noorul Omrah should be ordered to return to his native country, that he was deprived of his Jagheer and that he received the formality of his dismissal. In consequence of these measures I expected the departure of Noorul Omrah and I know of no other cause of the delay which took place in his leaving Hyderabad than his wishing to be joined by his son and associates previously to his departure. Under this impression I unexpectedly received your note communicating to me a resolution that Noorul Omrah should remain here. As the dismissal of Noorul Omrah was determined upon after many days' deliberation and reflection as he publicly received the formality of his dismissal, and as it must be notorious to the world that so decided a manifestation of His Highness's dissatisfaction must be owing to some great impropriety in Noorul Omrah's conduct it appears to me that suffering Noorul Omrah to remain at the Capital must derogate from the dignity and be prejudicial to the interests of the Government by abstracting from those impressions which other persons ought to receive whenever a measure of public severity and displeasure is adopted against a person of consequence. It is, therefore, my opinion that Noorul Omrah should be immediately ordered to leave the vicinity of the Capital. If His Highness

the Nizam is disposed to testify his munificence towards Noorul Omrah, a handsome sum of money might be given to him to enable him to prosecute his journey with every convenience and comfort, and he has already a personal Jagheer amounting to about 70,000 Rupees per annum. An additional Jagheer might be conferred upon him the benefit of which he may receive and enjoy in his native country. Such acts of munificency and generosity have been customary from former Sovereigns to their dismissed servants.

I can have, of course no interested motive in the opinion which I have taken the liberty to offer to your consideration. Whatever I have before represented to His Highness relative to this subject proceeded from the lively interests which I take in the affairs of this State and whatever I have now stated to you is owing to the desire which I feel unimpaired to preserve the dignity credit and respect of His Highness's Government.

I request that my sentiments and opinion on this subject may be submitted to the notice of His Highness the Nizam.

Letter No 20.—Sydenham reports that the Nizam flew to a rage when he read the reply of the Resident to the note sent to him (Resident) by the Prime Minister regarding the new arrangements desired by the Nizam about Noorul Omrah. When the Resident requested for an interview the Nizam demanded his (Resident's) acceptance of the arrangement about Noorul Omrah as a condition for the grant of an interview. The Resident took exception to this and refused to submit to the condition. The enclosures are illuminating on this point.

FROM—T SYDENHAM,
TO—THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.

Hyderabad, the 30th September 1806

In my last address No 18 I have the honour of submitting to your notice a copy and translation of the letter which I wrote to the Minister, in reply to his note communicating to me His Highness the Nizam's determination, relative to Noorul Omrah and I stated that the circumstances related to me by Chandu Lal and the Minister had induced me to request that I might be speedily honoured by a personal interview with His Highness.

2 To this request I received an answer of which I have the honour to enclose a translation and copy.

3 As I conceived it to be improper and irregular for the Nizam to prescribe the conditions to an audience required by the Resident, as such a proceeding was never adopted at this Court, and as I deemed it to be equally impolitic and derogatory from the dignity of the representative character to submit to an innovation which has always subsisted at this Court, I immediately prepared and dispatched a note to the Minister, the substance and translation of which (No 2) is annexed to this dispatch.

4 I understood from good authority that His Highness betrayed a great deal of indecent passion on the perusal of my reply, loaded Chandulal and the Minister with the most absurd epithets, and having sent for Shumsool Omrah, Umjudool Moolk, and Sheyaroo Dowlah expected now the Minister (using an epithet with which, I forbear to pollute the records of this Residency) he sent for Chandu Lal immediately hastened to the Minister's, related what had passed, entreated him, as he valued his honour

and his life and not to go to the Durbar while His Highness was in so frantic a rage. The Minister followed Chandu Lal's advice and sent a message to His Highness stating in very respectful terms that he was too unwell to leave his house. When Chandu Lal returned to the Durbar with the Minister's message he found that His Highness's passion had in some degree subsided and nothing particular occurred.

5 Such was the information which I received but the Minister sent me word that His Highness had perused my letter and had ordered him to the Durbar but as he was unwell he had made an excuse and had stayed at home.

6 I still believe that my information was correct but that the Minister thought it more prudent to withhold from me any communication of the Nizam's conduct and expressions and to appear not to notice them.

7 The line of conduct which I have proposed to myself was to wait for an answer to my letter. If His Highness should grant me an audience to state my opinions with candour and respect and afterwards to leave His Highness at perfect liberty to act as he thought proper. If His Highness should refuse to see me to make a reference to my own Government and to take no step without specific instructions in the meanwhile to offer no opinions or suggestions regarding the dismissal or retention of Noorul Omrah.

8 At this time I had the honour to receive your commands conveyed to me in Mr Secretary Edmonstone's dispatch dated the 1st of September.

9 In compliance with the suggestions contained in the 4th paragraph of that dispatch, I should not have lost any time proposing the recall of Rao Rumba and Noorul Omrah if I had been convinced that such a proposal could at that time have proceeded from me with that appearance of uninfluenced grace and clemency which seemed to be the object of your wishes. But under the circumstances which had recently occurred it appeared to my judgment that any immediate or direct proposal of the nature alluded to would be misconstrued by His Highness and his associates into a submissive compliance to (what) His Highness had assumed in his communications with Chandu Lal and the Minister. I therefore after mature reflection determined to make no direct proposal but to leave His Highness to the uninfluenced guidance of his own will which I knew was disposed to retain Noorul Omrah in the service.

10 Two days after the receipt of Mr Secretary Edmonstone's letter the Minister's Moonshy waited upon me and stated that His Highness was still desirous to receive my sentiments respecting Noorul Omrah. I trivially replied that I had already offered my real sentiments fully in writing that I could only advise as a friend that His Highness was of course absolute in all matters relative to the internal affairs of his Government and the treatment of his own servants and that His Highness was therefore at perfect liberty to dispose of Noorul Omrah in any manner that His Highness thought proper. That whether Noorul Omrah remained in the service or not was of no consideration to the British Government and that His Highness would of course decide on that subject for himself. As for myself I could not be supposed to feel any personal interest in His Highness's determination but that I must insist that His Highness would recognise the principle of granting me an unconditional interview whenever I should require an audience for the purpose of making any communications relative to the affairs of the two States.

11 His Highness I understand was pleased at the tenor of this message and some days afterwards directed the Minister to fix upon the quota of troops to be hereafter maintained by Noorul Omrah and a place for his residence. The Minister I am told proposed 500 or 800 horsemen.

which would include all Noorul Omrah's friends and dependants, and has mentioned the city of Aurangabad for his residence. An active negotiation has been carried on by Noorul Omrah to have the quota increased, and I hear that he has already expended two lakhs of rupees to obtain his wish. It does not appear certain what arrangement will positively take place, as the Nizam does not now express as much anxiety about it, but I shall not be surprized to hear that Noorul Omrah is reinstated in all his former Jagheers for the maintenance of his original quota of troops.

12 The same circumstances which have influenced my conduct regarding Noorul Omrah, seem to suggest the expediency of my withholding any proposition relative to the recall of Raja Rao Rumba, until I may be assured of the state of His Highness's temper and disposition, that such a proposition would be received in a proper light by the Nizam, and would make a suitable impression on the mind of Raja Rao Rumba. At present His Highness would misinterpret the motive of such a proposition and Rao Rumba would impute his recall not with the clemency and liberality of the British Government but to the intrigues and ascendancy of Mahipat Ram and to the successful struggle of Noorul Omrah.

13 The various letters which I have addressed to the Secretary in the Political Department will make you acquainted with the opinion that I am disposed to entertain of the nature of the late defection, of the Native troops in the Madras Army, and those opinions, which were deduced from partial observation of the occurrences at this station, appear to coincide with the result of your own judgment on all the information which has been submitted to your notice.

14 I understand that it was for some days before His Highness the Nizam could determine on an answer to my last note to the Minister requiring that no conditions should be prescribed to my audience of His Highness. At length an answer was determined upon of which I have the honour to enclose a copy and translation, and which I am disposed to receive as a sufficient explanation of the Minister's first note No 1.

*Translation of a Note from the Minister to the Resident,
dated 16th September 1806*

I submitted an Arzee relative to your audience with His Highness the Nizam. His Highness was pleased to reply that if Captain Sydenham would first agree to Noorul Omrah's remaining at Ellichpore His Highness would see Captain Sydenham, on Thursday next the 18th. Ellichpore was the Native place of Azimul Omrah, and in consequence of the connection between Noorul Omrah and Azimul Omrah, Ellichpore should be fixed upon as the residence of Noorul Omrah. I have communicated this for your information, and whatever you may state in reply, shall be submitted to His Highness.

Substance of a letter from the Resident to the Minister in reply to the above.

I have received your note relative to the Arzee which you addressed to His Highness concerning an audience, and I have understood the reply which His Highness was pleased to make to your representation.

The fact is this that the sole object of my wishing to be honoured with an audience was to submit to His Highness some circumstances of a general nature which I conceived might be useful to the interests of the two States, and it is not customary or regular to prescribe any conditions to an audience that may be requested by the Officer holding the situation of a Resident. I am therefore very much surprized that the audience which I asked for should be subjected to any conditions. I beg leave to request that you will represent to His Highness, that if His Highness will be pleased to honour

me with a personal and unconditional interview I shall be exceedingly rejoiced in order that I may have an opportunity of personally representing the circumstances which I have to submit to his notice. Otherwise His Highness has only to declare that it is not his pleasure that I should receive an audience in order that I may report the circumstance to my own Government and receive instructions for the guidance of my conduct.

I have stated this for your information in order that it may be communicated to His Highness and I hope that I may soon receive a favourable answer.

A true copy

C. RUSSEL
Acting First Assistant

Letter No 21—The letter contains an enclosure which reveals the deranged condition of Nizam's mind demonstrated by his acts of violence and excesses. It also intimates that Noorul Umrah was still in camp near Edilabad.

FROM—T SYDENHAM RESIDENT AT HYDRABAD
TO—M ELPHINSTONE RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

Hyderabad the 18th October 1806

I have the honour to transmit to you for your information a copy of my address No 20 to the Honble Governor General.

TO—THE HONBLE SIR G. H. BARLOW BARONET GOVERNOR GENERAL.

Honble Sir

I am concerned to observe that the Nizam's conduct becomes more extraordinary and unaccountable than ever. The Physicians and persons about the Durbar attribute these eccentricities to insanity and really they bear strong marks of deranged mind.

2 His Language and demeanour to Chandu Lal has become sufficiently gracious and condescending he makes constant enquiries of Meer Allum's health and has sent him a number of presents which though trifling in themselves appear to be intended as marks of politeness and kindness towards the Minister.

3 His sullenness and anger appears to have taken a different course and are now manifested towards his women his family his immediate dependants and those Omrahs who from their situations are obliged to be in waiting about the Durbar.

4 He has prohibited Shemsool Omrah Omrudool Moolk and Sheyar-oo-Doulah from approaching the presence and has ill treated the messengers by whom those Omrahs have conveyed their usual enquiries and compliments. He has used such expressions towards the Arzbegee Zeahool Moolk that the poor man has complained to the Minister of the indignities and insult to which he is subjected from his personal attendance on the Nizam.

5 The Begums the Buckshie Begum and Lynestool Nissa Begum are more indignant than ever at the violent and indecent behaviour of the Nizam. They have been lately engaged in celebrating the marriage of Mourtazool Omrah with the daughter of Jehandar Jah one of His Highness's brothers. When the usual communications on this subject were made to His Highness and request presented for the customary number of elephants and sufficient bridal for the last bridal procession His Highness positively refused to grant the request and the ceremonies would

have been suspended if the Minister had not furnished what was necessary from his own establishment

6 The two principal asseels of the Mahal, Mama Buroun and Mama Chumpa, to avoid the extraordinary facts of passion manifested by His Highness have sought refuge with the Buckishee Begum and Iyniatoo Nissa Begum. It would appear that they acted with great prudence for the third Asseel Mama Hanif and old woman of great respectability has been tied up and beaten in the most inhuman manner for some trivial negligence.

7 But His Highness's conduct towards Jeliman Begum, a young woman of great beauty who was far gone with child is the most melancholy proof of his cruelty and folly. His Highness entrusts this Begum with some papers which were mislaid on which His Highness beat her so violently that she miscarried. In this state His Highness insisted on presenting some medicine for her, which he forced her to take and which threw her into such violent convulsions that her life was despaired of, on hearing this, the Begum's mother, who lives in the city, flew to the assistance of her daughter, but in the anxiety of her maternal alarm neglected to go through the form of asking leave to visit the Mahal. When the Nizam heard of her arrival, he started up and went to the apartment with a drawn sword, with the declared intention of putting the mother and daughter to death. The women of the palace surrounded him, threw themselves at his feet, implored his mercy, and with great difficulty restrained the violence of his rage. The young Begum is still very ill, but is expected to recover.

8 It appears that His Highness passes his nights in a very disturbed state, that he scarcely ever remains in the same apartment more than an hour or two that he suddenly starts up in great alarm and apparent horror and goes from one apartment to another in quest of repose. In this disturbed state he passes the night and frequently changes his room five or six times in the course of the night. The female attendants report that he seems to be troubled with dreadful dreams as he suddenly starts up from his sleep and can give no reason for his alarm or horror.

9 The Minister appears to be convinced that all this proceeds from some derangement of intellect and would be serious to send the physician to him to bleed him and administer some medicines as generally lessen the violence of these fits. But the physicians are afraid to approach His Highness in his present state, as he often interferes on their prescriptions and never patiently submits to their advice. But I should hope that the violence of his present fits will in a short time exhaust itself and that he may gradually be induced to take such medicines as would facilitate his recovery.

10 In the meanwhile the Minister has very properly determined to be extremely cautious and circumspect not to trouble His Highness with any public business and not to do anything which can tend to increase the violence of His Highness's present distemper.

11 His Highness has not come to any resolution respecting Noorool Omrah, who still remains in his tents near Golkundah employing every effort of intrigue and bribery to obtain his original quota of troops and his former Jagheers.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

T. SYDENHAM, *Resident*.

HYDERABAD.

The 12th October 1805.

Letter No 22—Edmonstone encloses with this letter copies of three dispatches pertaining to the Rao Rambha Noorul Umrah affair in Hyderabad. The Governor General approves of the conduct and course of action of the Resident, and places before his council the full implications of the attitude of the Nizam in reinstating Noorul Umrah and recalling Rao Rambha to Hyderabad. The Council agrees with the Governor General in the decision to point out to the Nizam the great advantages of his alliance with the British and the obligations that the alliance brought upon him and the British Government, and how he should act under the present circumstances. The proceedings of the council and the letter addressed to the Nizam clearly illustrate the abandonment of the policy of non interference which had been adopted so far.

FROM—N B EDMONSTON SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,
TO—M ELPHINSTONE RESIDENT AT NAGPUR.

Fort William the 6th November 1806

The Governor General in Council deeming it proper that you should be apprized of any political measures of importance adopted by Government with respect to other States has directed the transmission to you of the enclosed documents as noted in the margin from which you will be apprized of the course of proceedings adopted by Government with a view to secure the due operation of the alliance subsisting between the Company and the State of Hyderabad which might be impeded if no restraint were imposed upon the few low and profligate characters who find in the weak capricious and suspicious character of His Highness the Soubahdar the means of misleading his judgment and directing his conduct in a manner calculated to serve their own interested views. The Governor General in Council is satisfied that the more respectable part of the community at Hyderabad are sufficiently sensible of the nature and the value of the alliance as it is connected with the interests of His Highness and the Governor General in Council has no doubt that His Highness will easily be brought to discern the imprudence of attending to the counsels of those who would indispose him to that alliance especially as by late advices from Hyderabad it appears that His Highness had again changed his conduct towards his Ministers and as the ladies of most influence in the Mahal had suggested to the Resident and the Minister the course of proceeding actually adopted in terms which indicate a disposition on their part to support it by their advice and remonstrances.

TO—CAPTAIN SYDENHAM RESIDENT AT HYDERABAD

Sir

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatches Nos 18 and 19, dated respectively the 25th and 30th ultimo and of your official and private letters to my address of the 1st instant. Your private letters of the were communicated to the Governor General in Council at the period of their receipt and the Governor General in Council has now judged it proper to place them upon the records of Government. I have received the commands of the Governor General in Council to communicate to you the following observations and instructions on the important subjects of those dispatches.

2. The continued and connected information contained in them exhibit a state of affairs at the Court of Hyderabad deeply affecting the security of the British interests and requiring the most serious attention of this Govern

course of conduct more consistent with the obligations of the nature of his connection with the British Government by restoring to the Minister the confidence which he has so unjustly and imprudently withdrawn by relinquishing his clandestine and disgraceful intercourse with Mahipat Ram, and by rejecting the malevolent counsels of his profligate and contemptible associates, it would be imprudent to trust the important interests of the Company as connected with the State of Hyderabad to the chance of this precarious conversion and as the danger of leaving the alliance in its present condition of ostensible solidity but real decay is evidently greater than could be supposed to exert under any other state of circumstances, no alternative is left but to make an effort to replace the alliance on just and proper foundations by a direct and decided interposition of that might and influence which the relative situation of the British Government should enable it to command.

3 As it may be of importance that you should be apprized of the arguments and considerations which have influenced the determination of Government upon this momentous question, I am directed to transmit enclosed a copy of the Governor-General's minute upon the subject the propositions contained in which have been adopted by the collective authority of the Government .

4 I am also directed to transmit to you an English copy of the Governor-General's letter to His Highness the Nizam The original will be forwarded as soon as it can be prepared

5 The Governor-General in Council is aware that the duty thus assigned to you of carrying into effect the proposed system of proceeding is in a high degree arduous and delicate but the Governor-General in Council's experience of the judgment, energy and ability which have distinguished the whole course of your official conduct at the Court of Hyderabad leaves no room to doubt of your engaging in the execution of that duty with a degree of zeal and alacrity proportioned to the importance of the measure and justice and confident expectation of its success

6 It will be necessary that the remonstrances contained in the Governor-General's letter to His Highness should be accompanied by a corresponding communication on your part and with the exception of one point which will be noticed in a subsequent part of this dispatch, the enclosed documents contain every required instruction with regard to the details of that communication, the terms of which your judgment and discretion will modify according to circumstances, adhering however to the general principles of the declaration contained in the Governor-General's letter to the Nizam excepting on the case to which I am now directed to advert

7 You will observe the reasons which influence the Governor-General's opinion that it is advisable to avoid a reference to distinct facts in any representation to be made to the Nizam It is possible, however, that the state of your information at the time when you receive this dispatch, may be such as to diminish the force of those reasons or that circumstances may appear to you and to Meer Allum to render advisable a declaration to His Highness of Government's knowledge of those facts and even an immediate demand for the recall of Mahipat Ram and for the dismissal of His Highness's profligate associates Under such circumstances the Governor-General in Council leaves it to your discretion to act as you may think proper It further occurred to the Governor-General that Meer Allum might be exposed to same degree of danger by a declaration of the knowledge which Government possesses of the intrigues which have been prosecuted A consideration for his safety indeed renders necessary a great degree of circumspection in the execution of the measures to be adopted on this occasion

8 It appears to the Governor General in Council also to be highly advisable to avoid as much as possible consistently with the success of our views giving offence to the feelings of His Highness an effect which would probably be produced in an extreme degree by a statement of facts personally referable to him

9 But although the Governor General in Council recommends the observance of the utmost practicable delicacy and respect in the mode of accomplishing the views of Government it is necessary to be firm and decided in the measures by which they are to be attained

10 You will observe some passages in the Governor General's letter calculated to alarm His Highness's fears By that means alone can an effectual and permanent impression upon his weak and capricious mind be effected Language however cautious directed to that object, must necessarily produce some degree of irritation but that irritation will be less in the degree in which the subjects of his apprehensions is left to be clearly inferred rather than distinctly expressed

11 It will of course be advisable from the same motives of delicacy that these communications should be made to His Highness in the most private manner and His Highness may avoid whatever humiliation might attend the publicity of the letter by consenting to peruse it in your presence alone and by abstaining from the communication of its contents to others By thus rendering the interposition of the British Government less apparent His Highness would be enabled to adopt the course of conduct recommended to him with more credit and dignity than if the compulsory motives of it were publicly exposed

12 I now proceed to state the sentiments of Government on the point referred to in the 6th paragraph of this dispatch

13 You will observe the proposition contained in the Governor General's minutes that you should be instructed to explain to His Highness the Nizam the general principles of policy which regulate the conduct of the British Government and the object of that explanation For this purpose it will be proper that you should introduce into your discourse some observations to the following effect

14 That the British Government has ever entertained and continues to entertain an anxious desire to maintain amity and peace with all the States of India That the ways in which it has been engaged were the result of aggression on the part of other States which have experienced in their defeat the reward of their injustice and temerity That the British Government entertains no views of conquest or extension of dominion That the acquisitions of the late Mahratta War were reserved or disposed of upon the principles of depriving the States which had provoked the war of those means of injury which they had manifested to unwarrantable a disposition to employ against the British Government and its allies That it was necessary consequence of the disposition of the British Government to maintain peace and constituted a fundamental principle of policy as it was also a principle of justice to respect the rights and privileges of other States That these pacific and equitable principles formed the foundation of the alliances contracted with His Highness with the Peshwa and other powers That the preservation of our rights under the obligations of those alliances was an essential means of preserving tranquillity That as the British Government scrupulously maintained the faith of its engagements it was equally resolved to require on the part of other States the due observance of the obligations they had incurred and in respecting the rights of other States the British Government would ever be prepared to protect its own That although the late territorial acquisitions of the British Government and the destructions of all that was formidable of the powers of the

various States which had without provocation placed themselves in the condition of enemies to the British Government, had augmented its resources, its military strength and reputation beyond any former period of time, yet that the British Government still observed the same system of justice and moderation. But that if any State or States misinterpreting the motives of our just and moderate system of policy, should be led to commit any act of aggression upon the British Government or its allies, Government was prepared to employ the most prompt and vigorous efforts to vindicate its rights. That the British Government it was resolved to maintain the position in which it had been placed principally by the result of these efforts which had in vain been employed to subvert its power. That the British Government was merely desirous of cultivating the prosperity of its own dominions and of maintaining its alliances as they at present exist, of conciliating the confidence of other States by abstaining from any encroachment on their rights, privileges and independence and of securing the blessings of tranquillity and peace, but that the security of these objects depended upon a vigilant observance of the conduct of other States and upon maintaining a state of preparation calculated to enable the British Government to oppose a prompt and effectual resistance to unprovoked aggression, violence and insult. That a pacific, moderate and liberal course of policy was peculiarly consistent with the present augmented condition of the British power since it would not reasonably be supposed that in that augmented state of our resources and our military strength and after the recent experience of our victories and triumphs the real motives of such system of policy would be misunderstood. But that it would be a fatal error in any State to found upon our observance of that system of policy a supposition that the British Government would submit to any encroachment upon its rights or upon those of its allies.

15 I am directed to observe that adverting to some parts of Meer-Allum's discourse to you as described in your dispatch No 18, the Governor-General in Council deems it highly necessary that you should intimate to Meer Allum that the principles above described are those which are recognized and enjoined by the legislature. That this Government is equally required to take up arms in defence of its just rights and those of its allies or to endeavour to maintain tranquillity by a proper degree of forbearance and moderation in its conduct towards other States. That after the successful termination of war, when no power existed which was either capable of affecting the security of the Company's dominions or could be supposed to entertain designs of an hostile nature against it when the most undeniable proofs had been afforded of the irresistible superiority of the British arms and the last enemy of the British power driven to extremity by a detachment of our troops had solicited peace and obtained it on terms prescribed by the British Government but prescribed on principles of perfect liberality and moderation, Government considered the foundations of tranquillity to be established and directed its attention to the permanent consolidation of them by observing in all the arrangements incident to the peace a spirit of liberality, confidence, justice and moderation and to the improvement of the sources of augmented prosperity and power resulting from the wars in which the British Government had been compelled to engage. That he (Meer Allum) appeared to have mistaken a natural and necessary transition from the active exertions of a state of war to the mild and moderate measures of a state of peace security and confidence for a change in the political principles of the British Government. But that the principles above described had uniformly influenced and would continue to influence the conduct of the British Government, that the invasion of its rights or of those which it was bound to defend had on several occasions called forth the exertions of the British Arms and that the same causes would again produce same effects. That

previous to the occurrence of those events which had demanded its exertions the British Government was not less disposed to peace and moderation than it is at this moment but the violence of other States compelled it to abandon the pacific system or to endeavour to establish the permanent foundation of tranquillity by depriving its enemies of the means of disturbing it in future That if in a condition of the inferior comparative strength (the power of the Mahrattas being) and the resources which supported it being then) the British Government was enabled in so signal a manner to vindicate its rights it was absurd to suppose that in its present state of superiority augmented by the complete subversion of the military strength of our former enemies and by the acquisition of the resources which formerly supported that strength, the British Government could entertain any apprehension of renewed violence or was unable to subdue it

16 The Governor General in Council entertains a confident hope that the representations which you are now directed to address to His Highness the Nizam combined with the remonstrances contained in Governor-General's letter to His Highness will induce him if not from the conviction of his judgment from motives of apprehension to adopt a course of conduct more consistent with the nature of his relative situation to abandon the clandestine and disgraceful intercourse which he has lately maintained with the profligate characters whose insinuations and intrigues have deluded him and to vest his able and upright minister with those powers and to repose in him that confidence which will enable him to remove the obstacles at present impeding the just and necessary operations of the alliance If contrary to expectation His Highness should be persuaded to resist the force of these communications the British Government will be prepared to adopt such measures as circumstances may then appear to render indispensably requisite for its security

17 Under the state of circumstances which existed at the time when you received the instructions of Government of the 1st ultimo relative to Noorul Omrah and Rao Romba the Governor General in Council considers you to have acted with propriety in abstaining from any recommendation in favour of those Chiefs the motives of which would in all probability have been misinterpreted and would have added to the influence and activity of the faction by which His Highness is misled You properly adopted a middle course by leaving His Highness at liberty to act as he might judge expedient with regard to those Chiefs The Governor General in Council also approves the dignity and firmness with which you rejected the condition prescribed by His Highness for your visiting the Durbar His Highness's reply to your note upon the subject appears to the Governor General in Council to be entirely satisfactory and to manifest a just sense of the impropriety of his conduct.

18 No doubt can be entertained of Mahipat Ram's hostility to the interests of the alliance and consequently his removal from his present command appears to be urgently required The Governor General in Council however is aware of the unpracticability of that measure until His Highness shall have been induced to withdraw from that intriguing character his clandestine support If the measures now adopted should be attended with success the difficulty will of course be removed

19 The remarks contained in your official dispatch of the 1st instant combined with the information received respecting the conduct of Mahipat Ram appear to the Governor General in Council to establish the authenticity of the letter said to have been addressed by Mahipat Ram to His Highness of which a copy and translation accompanied that dispatch and the imputation which its supposed authenticity fixed upon the Nizam adds credit to the communication of Meer Allum

20 The Governor-General in Council leaves to your discretion the limit the mode of imparting the substance of these instructions to Meer Allum

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

FORT WILLIAM
The 25th October 1806

N B EDMONSTONE, *Secretary*

GOVERNOR-GENERAL

Fort William, the 22nd October 1806

The information contained in the dispatches from the Resident at Hyderabad of the 25th and 30th ultimo and 1st instant is of the most serious nature. If that information be correct, the British Government is placed in the extraordinary predicament of being connected by the obligations of a defensive and subsidiary alliance with a weak prince who has been induced by the counsels of his flagetious advisers to manifest a disposition decidedly hostile to that alliance. Of the correctness of the information, I confess, I entertain no doubt. It corresponds with all that has been communicated by the Resident in his private letters to the Governor-General (which were circulated to the members of Council and which, I think, should not be recorded) and derives credit from that which Meer Allum has imparted and from the actual facts stated by the Resident. For this extraordinary conjunction it is necessary to determine what course of measures ought to be pursued. No arguments are required to demonstrate the danger of leaving in their present condition of ostensible solidity but real decay the foundation of our alliance with the State of Hyderabad, not only in the event of a renewal of war, when the aid of the resources and forces of that State would be claimable by treaty would that aid be withheld but that portion of our troops which constitutes the Subsidiary force of the Hyderabad would be virtually placed in the country of an enemy and consequently be exposed to all the hazards of such a situation without the advantages of the occupation of posts the establishment of depots or the security of communication with the Company's territory. No alternative then is left but either to abandon the alliance or to make an effort to replace it on its just and proper foundations by a direct and decided interposition of that right and influence which our relative situation should enable us to command. If this preliminary point be established, the question to be next considered, is whether we possess a right of option between these two alternatives. In other words, whether under the supposition that His Highness the Nizam is averse to the continuance of the alliance or the true spirit of its formation, the British Government is required on principles of public justice to dissolve it. For, if this latter question be answered on the negative, on right of interference in the degree necessary to replace the alliance on its proper basis cannot be disputed, and in that event, the dissolution of the alliance or the exertion of our efforts for its preservation and efficiency becomes merely a question of policy and expediency. But the policy of maintaining or withdrawing from the alliance is necessarily involved in the discussion of our right, the latter being principally founded on those considerations of national interest on which depends not only the prosperity but even the preservation of the British Empire in India.

The alliance with the State of Hyderabad was originally formed for purposes of mutual security. It was a convention between the two States to combine in perpetuity their interests. To concentrate their strength for their mutual safety and for the maintenance of peace and to participate in the hazards and in the eventual advantages of unavoidable war. The provisions of the alliance were not conditional but absolute. It became interwoven in the system of the respective Governments. It became complicated with the relations which both Governments separately and conjointly bore to other States and new relations new interests new obligations of public faith and honour have been engrafted on it and have grown up with it. Each party virtually resigned its right to abandon the alliance by a separate act of will because the reverse of this proposition would render either State the arbiter of the interest the honour and security of the other of the degree in which the interest honour and security were involved in the maintenance of that political position with respect to other powers, those arrangements and obligations of public faith which have resulted from the alliance between the Governments of the Company and of Hyderabad and have even founded on the confidence of its permanence and stability.

It cannot be necessary to point out in any detail the complete change in the whole system of our political position in India nor the extent and magnitude of the dangers which would follow the destruction of the alliance with Hyderabad. It appears evident to me that the very foundations of our power and ascendancy in the political scale of India would be subverted. It would be the signal and the instrument for the downfall of the remaining fabric of our political relations. It would be yielding to the intrigues of low profligate and contemptible agents professedly directed not merely to the subversion of the alliance but to the destruction of the British dominion in India. The power and resources which we have now a right to command for our support and security would be turned against us. The hopes and ambition of the turbulent and discontented would be excited and animated by such direction of strength and influence and by such a confession of weakness and timidity on our part.

Universal agitation distrust alarm and commotion would ensue and the elements of a renewed combination of hostile power against us would acquire an uncontrollable latitude of action and efficient means of success.

Not only would the engagements with the other States as far as they are connected with or founded upon the alliance be dissolved but the territorial acquisitions of the Company under the Treaty of Hyderabad must be abandoned. For when the Subsidiary Force of Hyderabad should be withdrawn upon what ground of justice could Government retain the territory assigned for the maintenance of that force. To recede from power and influence is at all times dangerous how much more so at the present moment when the motives of our moderation have been industriously misinterpreted and when the relinquishment of our alliance with Hyderabad would necessarily corroborate those artful and malicious insinuations by which His Highness's flagrant advisers have endeavoured to inspire him with a contempt of our power and with a persuasion of our weakness and our fears.

Under all these considerations I can no more admit the right of the Nizam to withdraw from the alliance than under the obligations of it to adopt any other measure which would expose to imminent hazard the very existence of the Company's dominions.

It is evident of what I have stated to correct that the questions of rights and of expediency with regard to the maintenance of the alliance under the circumstances of the Nizam's recent conduct are inseparable. I have no hesitation therefore in proposing the adoption of measures calculated to replace the alliance on its just and proper foundations.

I am aware that the adoption of such measures involves a deviation from that system of non-interference in the internal concerns of His Highness's administration which has been established as a principle of right and equitable policy, but the adoption of that system necessarily presupposed a just conception on the part of His Highness of the true principles and solid advantages of the alliance and a sincere disposition to maintain it. It presupposed a degree of firmness, discernment and dignity on his part which would lead him to resist the counsels of profligate and interested advisers who would endeavour to persuade him that the obligations of the alliance were obligations of dependance and degradation and would urge him to renounce it. Unsupported by these just and reasonable presumptions, that system is deprived of its sole foundations and the change is adopted not from choice but from necessity. It is not a renunciation of our general principles of policy but is produced by the evident impracticability of applying those principles to the condition of His Highness's Government without the certain loss of all the benefits, expected from an adherence to them. It is the adoption of a measure of security against great and impending danger.

It remains to consider the mode in which the proposed interference is to be exerted. An immediate object of the interference is pointed out by Meer Allum in the following terms —

To effect this most desirable end (previously described to be to restrain the Nizam from malignant influence of a few abandoned desperate men by whom His Highness would otherwise be led to destruction) it will be necessary that I should be openly and vigorously supported by the British Government, that I should be invested with plenary powers by the Nizam and that those persons should be removed who stand between the Nizam and the British Government. Any measures short of these will only tend to place me in difficulty and danger without producing any amelioration in the condition of affairs at this Court. Advice and remonstrance will be thrown away upon such a mind as the Nizam's or they will be counteracted by the evil influence of Mahipat Ram and the profligate associates of His Highness.

Making every allowance for the spirit of ambition which is known to form a part of Meer Allum's character, I cannot refuse credit to the accuracy, his statements or ascribe his counsels to unworthy motives, less his sincere attachment to the British Government, of his just and enlarged comprehension of the benefits of the alliance not merely to the Company but to the State of Hyderabad we have abundant proof. His advice is the obvious and natural result of his personal (positive) statements and the accuracy of these statements is supported not only by these internal evidence but by the testimony of corresponding facts. Admitting, however, as I cordially do the policy and even the necessity of adopting measures calculated to produce those effects which Meer Allum states to be indispensably necessary to the preservation of the alliance, it still remains to determine the process by which they are to be produced.

The facts reported in the Resident's dispatches are, in my judgment, so authentic that Government would be warranted in declaring to the Nizam in unqualified terms our positive knowledge of them and in founding upon that declaration a requisition for the dismissal of Mahipat Ram and the profligate attendants of His Highness's person. But there is, I think, an evident objection to institute a discussion of facts, the truth of which His Highness would unquestionably deny and the proofs of which are of a nature not to be adduced on such an occasion. I deem it advisable, therefore, to avoid a reference to distinct facts in any representation to be made to the Nizam. From the nature of our interference, he will, of course, infer our knowledge of those facts and will consequently judge of the importance Government attaches to the measures it recommends and of its resolution to support them.

From the whole of the information communicated by the Resident I derive this conclusion that it will be impossible effectually to influence the conduct of His Highness but through the medium of his fears. I would set before him in impressive language the benefits which his family and he himself in particular have derived from the alliance the equity liberality and moderation manifested by the British Government in its conduct towards the State of Hyderabad. I would give to the Ministers to whom since his accession to the Masnad His Highness has wisely committed the charge of his affairs the credit due to their able and energetic administration. I would expose to him the injustice and imprudence of withdrawing his confidence from those whose attachment to His Highness's real interest whose habits principles and conduct alone render them deserving of it.

I would also state to him distinctly that the British Government can not suffer the benefit of the alliance in which the interests of both States are so seriously involved to be exposed to hazard by tacitly regarding the dangerous effects of His Highness's situation to the counsel of those who for private purposes could induce him to believe that his interests and security are separable from those of the Company and who would infuse into his mind suspicions of the designs of the British Government and of the integrity and fidelity of the persons who from motives of sincere attachment to His Highness are anxious to maintain the efficiency of the alliance. I would afford to His Highness the most solemn assurance of our disinclination to abridge his independence or to limit his rights but I would urge as an indisputable right the liberty of opposing those machinations which are employed to dissolve the bonds of confidence between His Highness and those faithful servants whose conduct has uniformly been regulated by the true principles of the alliance and whose zeal for His Highness's interests and whose attachment to his person have been indisputably established by the improvement which they have introduced into the system of his Government by the augmentation of his revenues and by the measures which they have adopted to secure the efficiency of the subsisting alliance and I would express the earnest hope of this Government that as the true interests of the alliance and consequently the security both of His Highness and of the British Government were involved in his Highness's attention to the amicable representations of the British Government on the occasion I trusted His Highness would listen to the dictates of his interest, his dignity and the prosperity of his Government and would not compel the British Government to exercise the right which it possesses of adopting other measures for its security against the machinations employed by designing men to mislead His Highness's judgment and pervert the wisdom of his counsels.

I deem it advisable to avoid direct and positive demand that His Highness should restore to Meer Allum his confidence and favour and should vest him with plenary powers. I also judge it expedient to avoid the mention of Meer Allum by name and merely to advert in general terms to the prudence of entrusting the management of His Highness's affairs to persons such as those who had manifested their ability and disposition to conduct the administration on principles consistent with His Highness's true interests and the good of the state to the consequent advantages of continuing to repose confidence in persons of that description and to the imprudence of withdrawing it. A direct and positive demand of the nature above described might pledge us to the adoption of a specific measure which may not be applicable to the exigency of future circumstances. The object of those general impressions cannot be misunderstood. They convey our expectations without being subject to the inconvenience of a peremptory demand and leave us at liberty to limit or extend our future measures as circumstances may appear to require.

Such a demand also by giving to the transaction the character of a personal competition between His Highness and Meer Allum would be much more offensive to His Highness than expressions which refer rather to the conduct of his Ministers than to the Ministers themselves, although they intimate at the same time the necessity of supporting them and the object in view will more easily be accomplished by that mode of proceeding which is least calculated to offend His Highness's feelings and to increase his resentment against Meer Allum

I would further entrust the Resident to continue with representations above described an explanation of the general principles of the policy of the British Government which would afford a favourable opportunity of removing from His Highness's mind those erroneous impressions he has been induced to entertain respecting the power of the British Government and its inability and disinclination to exert that power for the punishment of aggression and for the preservation of its just rights and of its ascendancy in the political scale of India

On the timidity of His Highness's character, I found a confident expectation that such a decided line of conduct will be attended with the desired effects that it will enlighten his judgment as well as alarm his fears and that he will be brought to discern the fallacy of those expectations by which he is at present deluded

It has not escaped my reflection that the object of our solicitude at the Court of Hyderabad might possibly be more immediately and effectually accomplished by representing to His Highness the certain danger of the utter destruction of his power and dominion which follow the dissolution of the alliance and the consequent removal of the subsidiary force and by inducing his Highness to apprehend the adoption of that measure in the event of his refusing to comply with the just and reasonable expectations of the British Government. But such a representation appears to me to be objectionable on the grounds

First—It would be inconsistent with our deliberate resolution (supposing the positions stated in this minute to be adopted by the Government) to maintain and enforce the obligations of the alliance and it would in my judgment be incompatible with the principles of dignity and sincerity to menace a measure which we had previously resolved not to adopt and secondly Government would be placed in a situation of great embarrassment, if (as is possible) His Highness's profligate advisers should possess sufficient influence over his weak and misguided judgment to persuade him to accede to an alternative so congenial to the object of their views and intrigues

Independently of these considerations, the suggested declaration would be liable to the objection stated in the former part of this minute, to the dissolution of the alliance, namely that it would corroborate those artful and malicious insinuations by which His Highness's flagitious advisers have endeavoured to inspire him with a contempt of our power and with a persuasion of our weakness and our fears

If the Board should concur in the propriety of adopting the course of proceeding suggested in this minute, I propose to submit to the Board a draft of corresponding instructions to the Resident together with the draft of a letter to the Nizam

G H BARLOW.

G UDNY

J. LUMSDEN.

TO—HIS HIGHNESS MIRZA SEGUNDER JAHAN

Written 25th October 1806

The substance of several communications which I have received from the British Resident at Hyderabad has excited in my mind equal astonishment and concern, and has rendered it indispensably necessary that I should address your Highness in the language of friendship and of freedom on some points which the most important interests of your Highness and the British Government are intimately concerned. Upon your Highness's judgment and discernment upon the influence of those exalted qualities which give dignity to illustrious descent and elevated station I found a confident hope that your Highness will admit the justice of my representations will duly appreciate the motives which have dictated them and will regard my counsels as the counsel of a friend sincerely anxious for your Highness's prosperity interest and reputation. In this confidence I should proceed to state my sentiments without disguise or reserve trusting that the impression which they may produce upon your mind will confirm my opinion of your Highness's magnanimity and discernment augment my personal respect and attachment and induce your Highness to adopt those principles of action which can alone secure to you the enjoyment of your hereditary dignity and promote the true interests security and prosperity of your Government.

The enlightened mind of your Highness's late illustrious father discerned all the benefits and advantages to be derived from a perfect union of interests between the states and the British Government. With that justice and magnanimity which distinguished His Highness's exalted character he judged with equity of the views and principles of the British Government and disregarded the interested representations of those who would have excited doubts and suspicions in his mind and would have induced him to believe that the projected alliance would tend to an invasion of his rights a diminution of his authority and a debasement of his dignity. The result and operation of the alliance have completely justified by His Highness's confidence.

The combined power of the state of Hyderabad and of the Honorable Company have opposed an impregnable barrier against the ambitious designs exactions and encroachments of other states. Under the operation of this alliance not only has the dominion of the Asaphiah state been secure from all the efforts of external and internal enemies but its limits have been extended its resources augmented and its authority undisturbed by foreign interference and control.

Under the operation of this alliance your Highness peaceably ascended the Musnud of your ancestors. Shortly after your accession a formidable army assembled over the frontier of your Highness's territories and was prepared to invade them. In conformity to the obligations of the subsisting alliance the power of the British Government interposed for their defence and your Highness's dominion was alone protected and secured by the exertions and successes of the British Army. The enemy was completely defeated and although the co-operation of your Highness's troops cannot be said to have contributed in any degree to the success of the war whilst (as your Highness will recollect) the misconduct of your officers on the western side of your dominions materially impeded the operations of the British Army yet of the territories acquired by the efforts of the British arms provinces yielding nearly a revenue of 30 lacks of rupees per annum were added to your Highness's dominions.

The views with which the British Government entered into the alliance were not views of aggrandizement and extension of dominion. They were views of peace tranquillity mutual prosperity and security. It was the fundamental principle of the alliance between the two states to abstain from

encroachment on the rights of others, and to protect their own. While this just and necessary union of interests subsists between the two states, the British Government must derive advantages from the alliance in proportion to the internal strength, independence and prosperity of your Highness's dominions. In the increase therefore not in the diminution of that power, independence and prosperity is the interest of the British Government materially concerned.

The conduct of the British Government has conformed to this principle. In every war in which the Asaphiah state has been united with the British power, the former has acquired an accession of dominion and resources. No attempt has been made to exact from your Highness any unreasonable demands to control your Highness's authority within the limits of your dominions or to impair your hereditary rights. When your Highness desirous of affording a substantial mark of acknowledgment for the benefits which you had derived under the alliance, offered to relinquish the Pesheush of the northern circars, the British Government unwilling that either your resources should be diminished or your supremacy abridge declined acceptance of that offer. When your Highness manifested your disinclination to the establishment of an efficient corps of Sillahdar Horse a measure recommended to your Highness solely with a view to the support of your Government and the increase of your Military power, the British Government withdrew all further solicitation upon the subject, thus affording in the original proposition a proof of our solicitude for the increase of your Highness's power and in withdrawing it, an example of our resolution to abstain from any encroachment upon your Highness's acknowledged authority.

But a perfect union of interests and views between the two states constitutes the vital principle and essence of the alliance and can alone secure its advantages to both. Deprived of this vital principle it becomes a source of danger for the removal of which the application of our adequate remedy is indispensably necessary.

Those wise measures which your Highness's enlightened understanding has since your accession to the Musnud induced you to adopt, and the great wisdom and attachment of those to whom your foresight has hitherto committed the conduct of the executive administration of your Government and whom you have distinguished by your favour have promoted in the greatest degree the true interests and objects of the alliance and I have observed with cordial satisfaction that the operation of these causes has increased the vigor of your authority, the prosperity of your country, and the extent of your resources.

These benefits are to be ascribed to your Highness's wisdom and discernment in having hitherto reposed confidence in those who are distinguished for experience, sagacity, approved fidelity and sincere attachment to your Highness's person and Government.

Confident that the true interests and objects of the alliance were secure while your Highness continued to entrust the administration of your affairs to the conduct of such able and faithful servants of your family and to manifest towards them that unlimited confidence and favour which was due to their arduous and responsible situation, no necessity has hitherto existed for the exercise of any interference on the part of the British Government for the security of the rights which it possesses under the obligations of the subsisting Treaty. But when I hear the misfortune of interested persons have obtained your Highness's attention and induced you in some degree to withdraw your favour from those who from motives of sincere fidelity and attachments to your Highness are anxious to maintain the efficiency of the alliance, the interference of the British Government becomes indispensably necessary for the security of its rights under the obligations of subsisting engagements. Let me entreat your Highness to

admit into your mind a just conception of your true interests and the security of your dominion is inseparably connected with the preservation and efficiency of the alliance and to request that your Highness will continue to command and approve the adoption of every measure necessary to secure the objects of it. Let me entreat your Highness to bestow on those to whom you have so wisely committed the conduct of your Government your entire confidence and favour that they may be enabled by your support and protection to defeat the intrigues of the designing and to preserve order and efficiency in every branch of the administration of your affairs.

Let your Highness be assured that those persons who endeavour to inspire you with doubts of their fidelity and with suspicions of the views and objects of the British Government and would persuade you to adopt a course of proceeding inconsistent with the obligations of the alliance are your worst enemies. Under the garb of fidelity and attachment to your Highness they are pursuing their own interested purposes regardless of the dangers to which your Highness would be exposed by attending to their deceitful counsels.

They will tell your Highness that in offering this salutary advice the British Government is actuated by a desire to subvert your authority and to establish a control over your country and your Government. I enquire your Highness to be aware of the falsity of such insinuations and to believe that while your Highness's affairs are conducted upon principles consistent with the obligations of alliance the interest of the British Government will be promoted by the vigor and efficiency of your Highness's authority. The British Government can have no object in interfering in the concerns of your Highness's Government while its administration is conducted under the advantage of your Highness's confidence and favour by those whose attachment to the British interests is founded on the fullest conviction that the promotion of those interests is by the nature of the alliance inseparable from the increase of the prosperity and splendor and stability of your Highness's Government.

As the true interests of the alliance and consequently the security both of your Highness and the British Government are involved in your adoption of the measures which on motives of sincere friendship I have presumed to recommend I earnestly trust that your Highness will not by a disregard of my friendly advice compel the British Government to adopt other measures for its security against the machination employed by designing men to mislead your Highness's judgment and pervert the wisdom of your counsels. The British Government cannot suffer the benefits of the alliance in which the interests of both states are to remain involved to be exposed to hazard by tacitly regarding the dangerous efforts of your Highness's attention to the Counsels of those who for private purposes would induce you to believe that your interest and security are separable from those of the Company and would inspire into your Highness's mind suspicions of the designs of the British Government and of the integrity and fidelity of your ministers.

For further particulars I refer to your Highness to the verbal communications of the Resident to which I request your Highness's special attention.

A true copy

N B EDMONSTONE Secretary

Letter No. 23.—In this important letter the Resident expresses his views on the course of action suggested by the Governor-General in dealing with the Nizam at the present juncture. He disagrees with the Governor-General's suggestion of merely handing over his (Governor-General's) letter to the Nizam and explaining to him in a private interview the implications of the sentiments expressed in that letter. He suggests that nothing less than the removal of Mahipat Ram, Ismail Yai Jang and certain other associates of the Nizam can set matters right, and result in making the Nizam take a proper view of his real obligations with the British. He was therefore determined to effect this through the means of the Governor-General's letter, and suggested ways how he would effect this end.

FROM—T SYDENHAM, RESIDENT AT HYDERABAD
TO—THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL

Hyderabad, the 18th November 1806

Since the receipt of Mr Secretary Edmonstone's dispatch which I acknowledged in my last official address, No 23, I have paid the greatest attention to the object of your instruction, and to the mode by which it is proposed to accomplish that object. The subsequent receipt, from the Persian Department, of your letter to His Highness the Nizam, has rendered it proper, that I should no longer delay devising the means of successfully accomplishing the delicate and important duty entrusted to my charge.

2 As the instructions, with which I have been furnished, are in some degree conditional and as a certain degree of latitude is allowed to me both in the time and the particular process of effecting the ultimate object of Government, I feel the less reluctance in submitting to your consideration the result of my own reflection on this important subject, and in pointing out an outline of which it occurs to me to be the only means of leading to the complete and successful accomplishment of the just and political views of Government.

3 From an attentive perusal and consideration of the documents, which have been sent to me by the Secretary, it appears to me that the sentiments and objects of Government are nearly these—

First That the alliance with this state, according to the original principles upon which it was formed, is the foundation of the present extended and improved state of our Political Relations in India.

Secondly That circumstances having produced a great and dangerous change in the original state of our alliance with this court, it has become necessary to restore the alliance to its just and proper foundation by a direct and decided interposition of that weight and influence, which the relative situation of the British Government enables it to command.

Thirdly That in accomplishing the just and necessary views of Government, it is proper first to observe the utmost practicable delicacy and respect towards the Nizam consistent with the success of those views and secondly to employ that degree of circumspection which may prevent the Minister from being exposed to personal danger.

Fourthly That no doubt can be entertained of the hostility of Mahipat Ram to the interests of the alliance, that the facts which have come to the knowledge of the British Government would justify a requisition for the dismissal of Mahipat Ram and the profligate attendants on the Nizam's person, and that the removal of Mahipat Ram from his present station and command is urgently required.

Fifthly That the Governor General cordially admits the policy and even the necessity of adopting measures calculated to produce the effects which Meer Allum has stated to be indispensably requisite to the preservation of the alliance

Sixthly That the Governor General concludes it will be impossible effectually to influence the conduct of the Nizam except through the medium of his fears that the measures proposed by the Governor General are intended to alarm the fears of His Highness for the purpose of producing an effectual and permanent impression on His Highness's weak and capricious mind

Seventhly That if His Highness should contrary to expectation be persuaded to resist the force of the communications which have been directed to be made to him the British Government will be prepared to adopt such measures as circumstances may then appear to be indispensably necessary for its security

Eighthly That the important interests of the British Government cannot with prudence be trusted to the caprice and indiscretion of the Nizam's conduct

4 The general result of these several conclusions is that it is the object of the Government to restore the alliance to its just and original foundation by operating on the fears of the Nizam without giving offence to the feelings of His Highness and without involving the Minister in personal danger

5 The first question for consideration therefore is, what change in the personal conduct of His Highness the Nizam and in the general system of this Government ought to be received as a sufficient assurance of His Highness's disposition to revert to the solemn obligation of his alliance with the British Government

6 In my judgment nothing but the immediate dismissal of Mahipat Ram not only from his present station but from all future interference in the councils of the state, together with the banishment from the city of the profligate associates of Mahipat Ram who attended upon His Highness's person, and followed by the restoration of the Ministers to that consideration confidence and power to which they are so much entitled can afford the slightest ground of assurance of such a change in the sentiments and conduct of the Nizam as appears to be required by the tenor of your instructions

7 It has been wisely observed that no effectual impression can be made on the weak fickle capricious mind of the Nizam except through the medium of his fears That no impression whatever can be made upon the mind of the Nizam except that the medium of his fears is so certain that I should despair of producing any impression of His Highness's mind except through that medium But it must be considered that fear is a transitory passion in every breast and I suppose there is no person in the whole world in whose mind impressions of every kind are so transient as in that of the present mind The object of the British Government is to produce not only an effectual but a permanent impression I am convinced that remonstrance alone however strong and decided will never produce an effectual impression without it being followed by strong and decided measures and that no measure will produce a permanent impression without it being pursued by an uniform course of vigilance and vigorous control

8 The object of the remonstrances of the British Government is to induce the Nizam to receive an appropriate conception of the relative duties of his alliance and to treat his Ministers with respect and confidence But from the whole of my observations at this court I am con-

vinced that His Highness never will be induced by advice and remonstrances to invest his Ministers with confidence and power, until Raja Mahipat Ram and his profligate associates be removed, the former from his station and command, the latter from their attendants on His Highness's person

9 To prove the truth of this assertion it is scarcely necessary that I should employ many arguments. It is evident from the whole of my correspondence, it is a firm conviction on my own mind and indeed it is a subject of public notoriety at this Court, that Mahipat Ram, through the medium of Ismail Yar Jung and the personal attendants of the Nizam, has been the sole cause of His Highness's late extraordinary conduct not only towards the Ministers, but towards his own family and the most respectable personage at Court

10 It is only necessary to revert to that period when Meer Allum, supported by the Begums and the most distinguished Omrahs at the Court, induced the Nizam to ratify his Wajibool Arz, which stipulated precisely for those objects which it has now become necessary for the British Government to exercise its influence. To obtain the immediate effect of that reconciliation was the return of Mahipat Ram to his station in Berar in spite of that person's intrigues, and the appointment to the Paishkari of Raja Chandu Lal, whose character would do honour to any Government, the Company was pleased at the arrangement, the Nizam himself for sometime appeared satisfied, his conduct became steady and dignified, the heavy arrears of business which had accumulated in every department of the state, in consequence of the agitation of intrigue and personal contest, were speedily brought up, a general harmony prevailed, the Government proceeded with efficiency and vigor and had the Nizam invested his Ministers with that confidence and influence which he had solemnly promised, the condition of this state, in its internal regulation and administration, in its military strength, in the improvement and extension of its resources, and in the general prosperity and happiness of the people, would have gradually attained that respectability and efficiency which it is the primary object of an alliance to establish and secure. The personal conduct of the Minister's towards the Nizam was studiously calculated to procure His Highness's favour and confidence, and Meer Allum had gratified the ruling passion of His Highness's mind by giving up one-third of the Ministers's perquisites and by paying into the treasury twenty-one lacks of rupees above the usual surplus of the annual revenues of the state. Meer Allum at that period had just completed his useful and patriotic work, of supplying the city with water drawn by a canal from a branch of the river Moosi, and this noble work had been prosecuted and completed from his own private funds. Meer Allum, though melancholy object of disease and pressed down by bodily infirmities, had projected many other works, which, would have done honour to the most enlightened Minister of Europe in the Prime of life and in plenitude of power. He had intended to regulate the whole Military Establishment on a scale proportionate to the resources of the country, he had projected the cutting of large roads through the different provinces and the erection, from his private purse of caravanserias at proper distances on each of those roads for the accommodation and security of travellers. He had likewise projected to supply the Hussain Sagur Lake with a perennial stream of water drawn from the Manjera River. These works and designs were not only worthy monuments of his liberal, patriotic and comprehensive mind, but were practically useful in giving employment to at least ten thousand of the poor in this city. Without any immediate reference to the subject before me, I have thought it proper to notice these circumstances in order that the world may know the character of the man whom it is our wish, as it is our Policy to encourage and support

11 Such was the pleasing aspect of affairs after the Minister, through the medium of the most distinguished and respectable persons in the state had effected a reconciliation with the Nizam which His Highness ratified by a solemn deed. Such a state of affairs would never have required the interference, or the interposition of the influence of the British Government. The internal administration of the state would have regularly proceeded from the Ministers and other agents of the Government acting under the immediate independent and exclusive authority of the Prince. The British Government would only have had to exercise those powers which it has acquired by Treaty to regulate and control the external and political relations of this Government with the other states of India.

12 If we now revert to the conduct and proceedings of Raja Mahipat Ram since he left Hyderabad we shall find that his constant uniform undeviating object has been to disturb the harmony and repose of the Government to oppose himself in hostile rivalry to the Minister and to effect a new breach between the Minister and the Nizam by employing the most false and malicious insinuations and arguments and by creating in the Nizam's weak and credulous mind a firm conviction that the British Government was his worst enemy and the Minister the servile tools of our views of ambition and injustice. By sedulously exciting the Nizam's natural indisposition towards us by inducing His Highness to consider the Minister as the dependants and instruments of the British Government by exaggerating the power and resources of Sindur and Holkar and by employing every artifice to produce a belief of our depression and weakness both in Europe and in the country he has at length succeeded in withdrawing the Nizam from that just and appropriate conception of his interests and obligations with which it was equally the object of the Minister and of the British Government to impress the mind of His Highness. In short Mahipat Ram has been the primary and operating cause of that state of affairs which has required the interposition of our weight and influence for the preservation of the alliance in its just and original foundation. If His Highness should be induced to resist the just remonstrances of the British Government Mahipat Ram will be the cause of those ultimate measures which the wisdom of the British Government may then think it indispensable to adopt for the permanent security of our interests at this Court.

13 The information which I have from time to time submitted to Government is sufficient to prove the hostility of Raja Mahipat Ram to the interests of the alliance between this state and the Company. Though it be impossible to determine the precise object of his intended proposals to Salabat Khan we have sufficient grounds to conclude that those proposals were unfavourable to the interests of the alliance and of the British Government. We have ascertained that Raja Mahipat Ram since the period of his departure from Hyderabad has carried on a separate and clandestine correspondence with the Nizam of which the object has been inimical to the Ministers and the alliance. We know that Raja Mahipat Ram through the medium of Ismail Yar Jung and the personal attendants of the Nizam has exercised a most extensive and dangerous influence over the mind of His Highness and we know that the object and unhappily the effect of that influence have been to produce the present unfavourable state of affairs and we know that Ismail Yar Jung and the personal attendants of the Nizam are low profligate factious men who avowedly and imprudently abuse with equal violence the Ministers of this Government and the English nation.

14 It must be recollected that this influence has been exercised after the Minister has effected a reconciliation with the Nizam under the operation of which a Paishkar of the Minister's choice was appointed in

opposition to the intrigues of Mahipat Ram and the whole Government proceeded with such regularity, harmony and effect as would have proved to any understanding but that of the Nizam, the superior advantages, respectability and credit of reposing a proper confidence in the public Minister of the state. In spite of these advantages he in contradiction to the sentiments and advice of the Begum of his family and the most respectful Omrahs of the Court, suddenly unexpectedly and without a shadow of pretence, withdraws his confidence from the Ministers. He afterwards treats his Ministers, his family and the Omrahs with indecorum and indignity, renders himself an object of public contempt and manifests the most pernicious and senseless opposition to the British Resident.

15 It has not escaped me that a great deal of the Nizam's extraordinary and absurd conduct has proceeded from a temporary derangement of intellect amounting to occasional insanity. But this is only an additional argument to prove the danger of permitting His Highness to be under the guidance of a faction of base worthless wretches, who can avail themselves of the misfortune of the Nizam's temperament to direct it against his interests and security.

16 In an official dispatch I am reluctant to agitate a discussion of the momentous extremity to which His Highness's extraordinary conduct had almost led this Government. I have touched upon this subject in a private letter to the Secretary and I can assert with confidence that if His Highness had continued for some time longer to manifest such serious symptoms of derangement, a question would have arisen, which would have involved the British Government in the greatest perplexity, as any solution of that question would have produced serious consequences to the stability of our interests at this Court.

17 But making every allowance for the effects of His Highness's distemper, it is still certain that a great part of His Highness's conduct and the whole of the direction of His Highness's passion, must be attributed to the previous insinuations and treacherous advice of the personal attendants of the Nizam acting under the authority and instructions of Raja Mahipat Ram.

18 It is perhaps a great happiness to the repose, and security of his State that the disposition of His Highness is so timorous and capricious. It is likewise happy that neither Mahipat Ram nor the Nizam can command the services of the Military Chieftains of the State. For Mahipat Ram could have secured the obedience of the Commanders in Berar, and if the Nizam had either the boldness or the influence sufficient for desperate enterprise it is by no means improbable that, at some paroxysm of his passion, His Highness might have been incited to some degree to attempt against our power and influence.

19 What has already been stated is perhaps sufficient to prove the improbability of any permanent change in His Highness's disposition and conduct without the previous removal and degradation of Mahipat Ram, Ismail Yar Jung and their profligate associates. After the solemn ratification of the Minister's Wauhil Arz the Nizam was left to his own discretion, and might have observed the advantages of that very system which it has now become necessary to effect by the interposition of our influence. The experience of that transaction has proved that the Nizam is either incapable or unwilling to receive his real interests and those of his state. It has proved that no dependence can be placed on his judgment and discretion, and it has become necessary to make his fears the instruments of his own security and the security of the alliance, which are indeed the same.

20 The whole of this line of reasoning leads to the conclusion that the dismissal and removal from all powers and influence of Mahipat Ram Ismail Yar Jung and the personal attendants of His Highness the Nizam is an indispensable preliminary to that change which a just regard to the security of our interests at this court imperiously demands. He may also safely conclude that no remonstrance or advice can produce an effectual still less a permanent change in this disposition and councils of the Nizam until the Nizam shall have been rescued from the malignant influence of his present advisers. The assurance of the change which we require from the Nizam is the reception of friendly sentiments towards the British Government and the restoration to confidence and power of those Ministers who have so accurate a conception of the united interests of the two states. The only obstacle to this change are the persons I have mentioned and the removal becomes the first measure for consideration. After the experience we had of their sentiments designs and influence it would be vain to expect any improvement in the condition of this Government or any security to the rights and interests of the British Government which flow from the alliance without the previous removal of those persons whose influence alone have produced this disagreeable extremity.

21 The next point of consideration is how this previous measure can be effected without subjecting the Minister in personal risk and the third question how it can be effected without giving unnecessary offence to the feelings of His Highness the Nizam.

22 I have already had the honour to state in my address No. 23 that the Nizam continued to express considerable anxiety to see me for the purpose of reconciling all past differences. It is likewise intended by His Highness that as soon as I return to the Residency a person of consequence should pay me a visit of condolence and I understand that the Ministers themselves may be deputed for that purpose. It is probable that the Minister may be instructed to introduce the subject of the Nizam's desire to see me in which case it is my intention to make a candid avowal of my sentiments and of the general tenor of your late instructions for the purpose of impressing upon the mind of His Highness an adequate conception of the important subjects of the communication on which I have been directed to convey to His Highness. I shall likewise propose that the Minister should suggest to His Highness the propriety of the Minister's remaining at the Residency for some days as the subject of our discussions is of too important and extensive a nature to be disposed of in one or two interviews. It is not probable that His Highness would object to the arrangement and Meer Allum remaining at the Residency will not then be exposed to any personal risk during the course of my negotiations to effect the object of your views at this court.

23 It may be more difficult to carry into effect the measures which I propose as the immediate object of my negotiations without giving some offence to the feelings of the Nizam. But I shall not attempt to make any direct requisition of His Highness until I am satisfied that the remonstrances which I shall make in consequence of your letter to His Highness shall have produced a proper impression on his mind and shall make the removal of Mahipat Ram the test of His Highness's disposition towards the British Government and in doing this I hope to be able to avoid giving offence of the feelings of the Nizam and the necessity of a disclosure of the particular facts. The object of my remonstrances will be to lead to the question on the part of His Highness what satisfactory assurance he can afford to the Governor-General of his sincere disposition to cultivate the friendship of the British Government according to the original principles of his alliance. My reply will naturally lead to a

direct proposal of removing Mahipat Ram and Ismail Yar Jung and of banishing from the presence the profligate attendants of His Highness, who are unworthy associates, of a prince and discredit his court and his palace. I shall likewise press the urgency of His Highness's restoring his present Minister to his confidence and shall assure His Highness that his continuing to vest those Ministers with power, influence and confidence, will be the most convincing proof of the sincerity of his future disposition to cultivate and improve his connection with the British Government. But the Ministers themselves will be best able to procure the confidence and power necessary to their situations and to the preservation of our interests at this court, after the obstacles, which lie between them and the Nizam, shall have been removed by the interposition of our influence. It will be my object to endeavour to remove those obstacles and then to assist the Ministers in inducing the Nizam to adopt a system of conduct suitable to the real interests of his own state, and to the nature of his obligations to the British Government.

24 It is my intention to avoid waiting on the Nizam until I shall be satisfied that my previous communications have produced such an impression on his mind as may prepare him for the reception of those sentiments which your letter and my personal remonstrances are intended to inspire. As I know that the personal attendants of the Nizam are in the habit of insinuating that Meer Allum converts my communications to his own purposes, I intend to require that some persons such as Umjadul Moolk, Ihtisamool Moolk and Zeeahool Moolk may wait upon me with the Minister, in order that their influence may be added to that of the Minister, and that no doubt may remain in the mind of His Highness of the important and momentous object of my communications.

25 In the prosecution of these measures, my language will of course be strictly regulated by the sentiments which you have yourself expressed both in your letter to the Nizam and in the instructions with which you have been pleased to honour me. I shall be particularly careful not to employ any language which can give the slightest offence to the feelings of the Nizam, though it will of course be necessary to be firm and decided in the general tenor of my communications to His Highness. Indeed if His Highness possesses any feeling or sagacity the whole tone of your letter ought to produce a sufficient impression on his mind to render unnecessary any further remonstrances on my part.

26 I shall of course consult the Minister on every point connected with the object and process of my negotiations, and shall adopt no step without his entire concurrence.

27 I beg you to be assured Honourable Sir, that I am fully aware of the delicacy and importance of the task which has been assigned to me. It is impossible for me to determine whether the mode in which I intend to execute your commands will be attended with the success which I so earnestly desire, and even if they should succeed in their immediate effect. I almost despair of my permanent benefit to the state of our alliance in this Government, under a prince of the character and disposition of Secunder Jah. I am afraid that in this capital there are many men like Mahipat Ram and Ismail Yar Jung, for as long as the Sovereign continues to resist that cordiality of friendship, which ought to flow from his alliance with the company, so long will there be persons ready to indulge his propensities by opposing the just views of the British Government and the Ministers of the State. I have every reason to conclude, that the indisposition of the Nizam towards the Minister is founded on his aversion from his connection with the British Government, and I am confident that if Mahipat Ram himself were minister, and were to act on any unison with the British Resident, Mahipat Ram would become as obnoxious to the

Soubahdar as Meer Ailum is and Austo Jali was during the period of his administration I or such absurd inveterate and ungrateful sentiments on the part of the Sovereign I see no remedy but a steady perseverance in a system of vigorous and vigilant control over the councils of this state

Letter No 24—Sydenham informs him in the two enclosures to this letter, which are copies of his letters to the Governor General and Col Montessor that the Nizam had been pleased to sign the order for the dismissal of Mahipat Ram and the appointment of Raja Govind Buksh to the Civil administration of Berar that His Highness had entirely concurred on the propriety of detaching two Battallions of Native Infantry with Govind Buksh to Basim and that in compliance with the earnest desire of His Highness Capt Russell had been asked to proceed to Berar with a British detachment

FROM—T SYDENHAM RESIDENT AT HYDERABAD

TO—M PLPHINSTON RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

Hyderabad the 26th December 1806

I have the honour to transmit to you for your information a copy of my last address No 29 to the Hon ble the Governor General

Vol 14—Enclosure No 1 to letter No 36

TO—THE HON BLE SIR GEORGE H BARLOW BARONET
GOVERNOR GENERAL

Hon ble Sir

In my last address I had the honour to report to you that His Highness the Nizam had been pleased to sign the order for the dismissal of Mahipat Ram and the appointment of Raja Govind Buksh to the Civil administration of Berar that His Highness had entirely concurred on the propriety of detaching two battalions of Native Infantry with Govind Buksh to Basim and that in compliance with the earnest desire of His Highness I had consented that Mr Charles Russell should proceed with the British Detachment to Berar

2 I immediately addressed a letter to the Commanding Officer of the Subsidiary Force directing him to order a detachment of two battalions of Native Infantry with their field pieces to be held in readiness to march to Basim and pointing out the motive of this movement and the line of conduct to be observed by the Commanding Officer of the detachment during the period of his absence from the headquarters of the Force I have the honour to lay in before you a copy of the letter which I addressed on that occasion to the Commanding Officer of the Subsidiary Force

3 I likewise directed Mr Charles Russell to prepare himself for the march to Basim and furnished him with detailed verbal instructions for the general regulation of his conduct in Berar The principal objects to which I directed his attention were first to convey assurances if necessary to Raja Mahipat Ram of a nature calculated to relieve his apprehensions agreeably to the express wish of His Highness the Nizam second to convey the esteem and regard of the several (torn) Chieftains in Berar, and 3rd, to assist Raja Govind Buksh in the proposed reformation of the Corps of Infantry stationed on that province I likewise directed him to abstain most scrupulously from all interference in the administration of the province but if required by Raja Govind Buksh to assist that officer with his sentiments and advice on all points connected with the prosperity and welfare of the country subjected to his authority I have the honour to submit to you a copy of the written instructions which I thought proper to convey to Mr Russell on his departure from the Residency

4 At the termination of the Ramzan, I observed the usual form of sending my Mowlavee to the court for the purpose of offering his Nuzar and conveying my congratulations to His Highness the Nizam. The Mowlavee found the Durbar extremely full, and for the first time saw all the brothers and children of the Nizam. His Highness received the Mowlavee with much attention, made many polite enquiries of health and conversed with him on a variety of topics. The following day I went to the Durbar myself and paid the usual compliments of the season. The Minister was not sufficiently recovered to attend in person, but his place was occupied by Mooneerul Moolk. His Highness told me that he was engaged in preparing an answer to your letter, and requested that I would assist him with my advice respecting the terms in which the letter ought to be written. I replied that I had seen a rough draft of a reply in the hands of Meer Allum which appeared to me to be very appropriate and that I advised His Highness to consult with Meer Allum and Ihtisamool Moolk respecting any alterations which His Highness might wish to make in the original draft. His Highness stated that he was solicitous to receive another letter from you expressing of your satisfaction at the measures which had been adopted in consequence of your remonstrances and of the confidence you reposed in his friendship and attachment to the Company. I replied that His Highness had given a signal proof of his wisdom and friendship by the manner in which he had received and acted upon your letter of advice, and that I had no doubt you would gratify his wishes by expressing the gratification which you must feel at such a convincing testimony of His Highness's accurate conception of his own real interests and of the mutual obligations and duties of the alliance. His Highness asked me if I had any doubt of the sincerity of his attachment to the Company. I replied that whatever doubts I might once have entertained on that subject had been completely removed by the late arrangements, and I assured His Highness that it entirely depended on himself to prevent the recurrence of anything to disturb the harmony and confidence of the two states. His Highness said that he expected I would always assist him with my advice and opinions. I replied that I certainly should, but that I was not accustomed to flattery and deceit, that it was my earnest wish to consult His Highness's pleasure on all practicable occurrences but when the important interests of the allies were concerned it would be necessary for me to be candid and honest in any advice. His Highness said that real friendship did not admit of reserve and that he knew it was the custom of the English Nation always to say what they really thought. His Highness then enquired, in rather a jocular way, what the Governor-General and myself would do for him in return for the late arrangement. I thought this question in the manner in which it was put, was undeserving of a serious answer and therefore I replied that the Governor-General and myself would pray for the prosperity and stability of the House of Assophiah.

5 Some-time afterwards His Highness observed that he had received no answer from Delhi to the Arzee which he had addressed to His Majesty. I replied that I had learnt that His Majesty was very ill, but I had no doubt His Highness would soon receive an answer to the subject of his Arzees.

6 His Highness then conferred some jewels and a Pandan of leave on Mr Russell on occasion of the approaching departure of officer from Hyderabad.

7 His Highness desired that I would permit Raja Govind Buksh to wait upon me before he proceeded to Berar and that I would give the Raja advice for the guidance of his conduct in that province. To this I immediately assented and a day was appointed for the Raja's visit to me.

8 During the whole of my audience His Highness was in excellent spirit and spoke with great cheerfulness on each subject

I have the honour to be

Sir

Your most obedient humble servant

HYDRABAD

T SYDI NHAM Resident

The 20th December 1806

TO—COLONEL MONSTRESOR COMMANDING THE SUBSIDIARY FORCE

Sir

The Minister of this Government having conveyed to me His Highness the Nizam's desire that a detachment consisting of two battalions of Native Infantry with their Field Pieces should be sent to Basim in Berar for the purpose of ensuring the repose and tranquillity of that province during the intended change of administration I have judged it proper to comply with His Highness's desire and I request that you will order a detachment of the above mentioned strength to be prepared for movement

2 Raja Mahipat Ram having been dismissed from the Civil and Military authority over the province of Berar Raja Govind Buksh has been appointed to the superintendence of the province and it is probable that the Chief command of the troops will be soon conferred upon some officer of the Minister's selection Raja Govind Buksh will leave Hyderabad on the 18th instant and it is the wish of the Court that the British Detachment should accompany Raja Govind Buksh to Basim

3 I now proceed to communicate to you some general instructions which I request you will be so good to carry to the officers Commanding the British Detachment for the guidance of his conduct during the period of his absence from the headquarters of the Subsidiary force

4 The object of the service on which the detachment is intended to be employed is simply by its presence to add might and influence to the appointment of Raja Govind Buksh to prevent Raja Mahipat Ram from opposing the operation of Govind Buksh either by clandestine intrigues or open resistance and generally to ensure the peace and tranquillity of Berar until Govind Buksh shall have obtained complete charge of that province The knowledge I possess of the state of affairs at this Court the experience I have had of the character, disposition and designs of Mahipat Ram and the evidence I have obtained of the enmity of that person to the interests of our alliance with this state afforded just grounds of suspicion that Raja Mahipat Ram might have obstructed or even resisted the exercise of the powers which have been conferred on his successor if a Detachment of the British Troops had not accompanied his successor to Basim But since Mahipat Ram has received intelligence of the intended march of the British Detachment he has laid aside every design of opposing his successor and has conveyed both to the Minister and myself the most positive assurances of his ready compliance with the orders of His Highness the Nizam I have therefore reason to conclude that the British detachment will only have to march to Basim and to remain encamped in the vicinity of that place until Raja Govind Buksh shall have obtained peaceable possession of the province of Berar

5 I should wish the detachment to move to Basim as quickly as possible consistently with the convenience of the troops. The Commanding officer determine upon the length of the marches and the grounds of encampment, and Raja Govind Buksh and his party will pitch their tents near the detachment.

6 The troops are on no account to be employed in settling the country or in any offensive operations without my specific orders, which if necessary, will hereafter be issued to the Commanding Officer of the detachment, but of course the Commanding Officer will act as he may think proper, in providing for the security of his detachment.

7 In the event of their being any difficulty in supplying the troops regularly with grain and provisions, the Commanding Officer will apply to Raja Govind Buksh who has been directed by this Government to afford the troops every assistance in his power.

8 The Commanding Officer is not to move beyond Basim without further orders.

9 At the particular desire of His Highness the Nizam and the Minister I have consented to send my assistant Mr Charles Russell with Raja Govind Buksh and I request that the Commanding Officer will be pleased to communicate with Raja Govind Buksh through Mr Russell. As I shall hear regularly from Mr Russell, it will not be necessary for the Commanding Officer of the detachment to correspond with me.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

HYDERABAD

(Sd) T SYDENHAM, *Resident*

The 12th December 1806

TO—LIEUTENANT CHARLES RUSSELL, ACTING ASSISTANT
TO THE RESIDENCY

Sir,

At the desire of His Highness the Nizam and of the Minister, I have consented that you shall accompany Raja Govind Buksh to Basim.

2 The several conversations which have passed between us respecting the object of your mission, precludes the necessity of my communicating to you detailed written instructions.

3 At the same time I think it proper to call your particular attention to the following objects.

1st His Highness the Nizam has expressed his solicitude that you should convey assurances from me to Raja Mahapat Ram that his life, honour and personal property shall not be damaged by his dismissal from his station in Berar, you will, therefore, authorize to convey such assurances to the Raja as you may think will satisfy him on those points, and in order to guide you in making those assurances, I have the pleasure to enclose copies of two letters from Meer Allum to the Raja, and from myself to him. At the same time you will point out to the Raja the necessity of relinquishing and avoiding all clandestine correspondence either with the Nizam himself or with the personal attendants of His Highness, you will likewise impress him with the necessity of yielding a cheapest and ready obedience to the orders of the Government, by delivering over the charge

of the districts and troops under his charge to Raja Govind Buksh and by returning to the fortress of Sugar which has been appointed to be the place of his future residence. If he should continue to express an anxiety to retire to some place of religious worship, such as Benares Jagannath or Tirupati you will tell him that after his arrival at Suggur I will communicate his request to the Hon'ble the Governor General though I cannot take it upon myself to promise whether his request will be complied with by the British Government. You will tell in the most unequivocal terms that I will never consent to his or Shreepat Ram's visiting Hyderabad and I will oppose such an intention by every means in my power. You will particularly caution him against all clandestine correspondence and the agitation of all intrigue and you will let him know that the realization of the assurances which you are directed to convey to him depend entirely upon his relinquishment of these habits and designs which rendered necessary his removal from Berar.

2nd If the Military Chieftains in Berar should address you you will reply to them in terms of general civility and politeness calculated to excite or to confirm their attachment to the united interests of the two States, you will endeavour to obtain accurate information of the numbers and description of the honour maintained by the several chieftains in Berar and of the character and disposition of the Chieftains themselves. We may depend upon the disposition of Salabat Khan and Asseerood-oulah but we are not so certain of the sentiments of Subhan Khan and Bukshi Gulam Hyder.

3rd You will likewise endeavour to procure satisfactory information of the numbers and disposition of the Corps of Infantry in Berar as such information will enable me to assert the Minister with my advice respecting the future formation and equipment of those Corps.

4th You will endeavour to obtain list of all the Europeans or half-caste men who may belong to the several Corps of Infantry in Berar describing their nation their character their qualifications and their period of service. Raja Govind Buksh will receive the Minister's orders to send Clemente the Spaniard down to Hyderabad, and as this man has long been obnoxious to suspicion it will be proper that you should request Colonel Akeely to detach a guard to escort Clemente to the Capital.

5th I have the pleasure to forward for your information a copy of my letter to the Commanding Officer of the Subsidiary Force desiring him to convey certain instructions to the Commanding Officer of the Detachment which has proceeded to Berar. You will then see the object of sending that detachment to Berar, and you will of course regulate your communications to Raja Govind Buksh by the sentiments expressed in that letter.

6th Any other information which it may be in your power to obtain respecting the Military establishment the state of the country and of its resources and Mahratta claims of Choute on the provinces under Raja Govind Buksh will be extremely useful and acceptable to me.

HYDERABAD

The 20th December 1806.

I am Sir

Your most obedient servant

(Sd.) T SYDENHAM

Resident

Letter No 25.—This forms an enclosure to Sydenham's letter to the Governor-General dated 27th December 1806

These six articles give an idea of the nature of control that the British had over the Nizam from so early a year as 1806

Volume 14.—Enclosure No. 2 to letter No. 33

Translation of a paper of six articles which was presented by Capt Sydenham to His Highness the Nizam, and was ratified by the signature of His Highness on the 4th of December 1806

1st The Hon'ble the Governor-General having fully established that Mahipat Ram is enemy to the British Government, is inimical to the friendship and alliance between the two states, and in this respect is an enemy to the Assophia state, it is proposed that, if the continuation of the friendship of the British Government be an object of solicitude to His Highness Mahipat Ram be dismissed from his present station together with Sreepar Ram and others be ordered to remain with every proper comfort in the fortress of Suggar and that Ismail Yar Jung who is the intimate associate of Mahipat Ram and both the Principal and Agent of the factions turbulent be dismissed from his station and ordered to reside at his native place

2nd That a pension be granted to Noorul Omrah of the same amount which he formerly enjoyed and that his friends and dependants who do not exceed 4 or 500 men be taken in the service, and that Noorul Omrah be ordered to retire to Aurangabad, the place belonging to the family of Auzimool Omrah

3rd That persons who may be in the confidence of His Highness and on whom the Governor-General and the Resident can place dependance be immediately appointed to the charge of the duties and command of troops at present under the charge and command of Mahipat Ram

4th That no alteration be made to the just proposals of the British Government and that they be immediately complied with, that delay and from which difficulty difference and disputes chiefly arise, be not thrown into the way of such proposals, and that as often as this friend may require an audience, no conditions be presented to it, and no difficulty be made to the granting of it

5th That an immediate stop be put to all representations and Arzees which factious people secretly convey to His Highness and that on this subject, the approved custom of His late Highness be pursued, which was that whenever any person secretly conveyed an Arzee to His Highness or put on foot a clandestine course such an Arzee or representation was immediately communicated to the Prime Minister, and the Prime Minister communicated to the British Resident That if the Arzee of any ill disposed persons should be clandestinely conveyed to His Highness or that if secret intercourse should be carried by any such person His Highness should regulate to communicate it in the way above mentioned The Resident will assuredly represent the circumstances to His Highness and will require that the person be punished

6th That according to the suggestions of the Governor-General His Highness to repose implicit confidence in his present Minister and do bestow his kindness on him and that according to the stipulations of the Wajibool Arz which was before confirmed by His Highness's signature all which may be performed and accomplished by the Minister shall be ratified That the life and honour of the Minister and of his friends and dependants be protected by His Highness and as His Highness has been pleased to declare to this friend that you are to be the link between me and Meer Allum in the event of any alteration or of the Ministers representations not being approved of this friend will take upon himself to reconcile such difference, and lastly that 4 companies of the British Troops shall be permitted to be stationed at the Ministers residence for the protection of his person

True Translation

SINDHIA'S AFFAIRS

Letter No 1.—The information contained in this statement taken from Mr Stuart by Lieut Colonel Close throws light on the military organization and equipments of the Sindhia's army. It also indicates how the European officers of Sindhia's Army proved disloyal and even deserted on the eve of the battle.

Sindhia's Camp 15th October 1803

Mr Stuart arrived in Sindia's camp at Idclabad on the 1st of June 1803. About 25 days after he was appointed to do duty with the Burhanpore Battalion of the 1st Brigade Commanded by Colonel Pohlman. The Bhonsla's Army was then Mr S believes at Malkapur. The force at Edlabad was then as follows:—

8 Battalions of the 1st Brigade

4 Battalions of Sumroo Begum's

4 Battalions (of the Brigade late Close's) Commanded by Mr Dupont a person of Dutch Extraction born at Ceylon

4 or 5 Battalions of the 5th Brigade commanded by Major Brownrigg

6 or 7 Battalions of the 4th Brigade commanded by the Chevalier Doderneigue

Sindia with his cavalry was at this time not in sight probably at Malkapur

The ordnance is as follows:—

With the first Brigade there were five guns to each Battalion besides a Park to the Brigade consisting of 8 or 10 pieces 18 and 12 prs. The ordnance of the other brigades Mr Stuart imagines was not quite so numerous probably about three to each Battalion. Besides which was Dowlat Rao Sindia's own Park called the Jinsce under Munsingh Chowdry about 40 or 50 pieces. This was the whole force in Infantry and Ordnance when Mr S joined. The cavalry is very numerous. There were about (torn) Cavalry attached to the three Brigades. In the month of July the whole force moved on towards Adjunta. The 1st Brigade having halted within 6 Coses of that pass.

After a halt of some days the 4th and 5th Brigades under Brownrigg and Doderneigue were ordered to Hindusthan. They accordingly marched towards Ujjain. The 1st Brigade received orders to march back to Burhanpur the same night that Colonel Collins left Sindia's Camp. They accordingly marched to Burhanpur. Two of the Battalions crossed the Taptee when the whole Brigade was remanded to Sindia's Camp. Sindia himself having by this time penetrated through the Adjunta Pass with his Cavalry the Begum's Battalions and the four under Monr Dupont. The 1st Brigade marched to Adjunta where it encamped. Sumroo's and Dupont's being encamped in the neighbourhood.

When Colonel Collins left Camp Mr Stuart asked Colonel Pohlman to give him his discharge. Col P said that he could have his discharge from General Perron only. Mr S continued to press Colonel P for his discharge telling him that hostilities might commence before he could hear from General Perron and that if Colonel P persists in refusing him his discharge he was determined to go and in the best manner he could. At length on the 12th of September Colonel P was induced to give

him his discharge and Mr Stuart immediately quitted Camp and went to Burhanpur Mr Grant and Mr Mac Cullough obtained their discharge at the same time and went back with Mr S to Burhanpur

In the Ghaut, Mr S met Sindia's Jinsee Park

The morning after Mr S received his discharge, the enemy marched in a southern direction Mr S reached Burhanpur without any material occurrence at Burhanpur There were no troops Mr Stuart after remaining a short time at Burhanpur to procure some people for his protection on the journey, set off intending to go by the Unkitunki Ghat but at Arundole, hearing that there was a nearer route by Untoor Ghat proceeded that way to Dowlatabad and from thence to Poona, where he arrived on the 14th October

Just before Mr S left Burhanpur he heard a report of an action having taken place and Sindia's army was said to have been defeated On the road Mr S heard that the battle was very severe and that there was great loss on both sides, that all the 1st Brigade was cut up except one Battalion which was with the baggage, that all Sindia's guns had been taken and that Major Doison was killed Mr Stuart thinks that Major Dorson must have commanded the Brigade on the day of the action He was the officer next in rank to Colonel Pohlman, and Mr S knows that Colonel P had insisted on having his discharge, and used every endeavour to procure it from Sindia, but to no purpose That though Colonel P was induced to march Mr S knows that it was not Colonel Ps' intention to fight and that he had sent his resignation to General Perron Mr S also heard a report, that Colonel P was not in the action The reports which Mr S heard of the action were so vague that no dependence can be placed on them but he understood that all the 1st Brigade, except one Battalion was in the action That, that Battalion and Begum Summroo's and Dupont's Brigades were with the Baggage Mr S does not know of any British subjects in these two last mentioned Brigades In the 1st Brigade there were only Mr S and the two gentlemen above mentioned and Mr Marrs, and a sergeant and a gunner The sergeant asked Mr S's advice about the best means for quitting camp and said he saw that the Brigade was going to march forward, that he should have gone off before, had he not been apprehensive, that his departure would occasion a suspicion against the English Officers and that they would be siezed in consequence Mr S advised the Sergeant to go over to General Wellesley's Army which would easily reach though Mr S could not At length the Sergeant said he should take the first opportunity to slip off on the line of march and Mr S understood that the Gunner had the same intention

When Mr S left Camp Mr Marrs was out on a foraging Party and Mr S does not know what became of him Mr S knows that he as well as the others made many endeavours to get his discharge The other Europeans in the Brigades which were with Sindia were chiefly French and Portuguese

Foreign European Officers of the 1st Brigade

Col Pohlmaun	Hanoverian
Major Dorson	French
Captain Gautier	Do
Captain L. Honore	Do
Captain Lieutenant Mercier	Do
Ensign Perrin	Do
Ensign Manual de Brill	Portuguese.
" Joseph Corolus	Do
Signor Cambro or Camro	Do

Besides the above there were 4 or 5 Europeans Sergeants or Gunners and 20 or 30 half cast and native Portuguese Gunners and Topasses. There is also a Mr Wroughton a person of a very dark complexion a native of Bengal. He was an Ensign or Cadet and a Mr Brown an Englishman, an Ensign or Cadet. These two last mentioned persons were not associated with and Mr S knows nothing about them. The Artillery men are chiefly Mohammedans. They are divided into two class. One called Golandaz and the other Gurnell. The latter carrying a sort of a carbine or blunderbuss they are clothed in Blue turned up with red. Ensign Cambro had charge of the Parka.

Mr S has reason to believe that Gautier, Honore and Mercier were very averse to the War and would have got their discharge if they could. Dupont too was very anxious to go away and was in fact for some time prisoner in his own Camp. Dorson was very inimical to the English and he was so apprehensive of Pohlman's leaving Camp from his unwillingness to serve against the English that he surrounded his tent at night with Mewatis and other people to prevent his getting away. Mr S knows nothing further of the Europeans whose names are here mentioned.

Mr S thinks there must have been 60 guns attached to the 1st Brigade and on a rough calculation that not less than 150 or 160 Pieces of Cannon were brought up the Ghaut.

Mr S thinks that there must be a good many guns in asseer but he has no reason to think that they are mounted on field carriages.

When Mr Stuart was near Adjuttee he saw a letter from General Perron to Colonel Pohlman in which General Perron mentioned that in consequence of the apprehensions which were entertained of a war breaking out his English Officers had taken their discharge. That he therefore wished Colonel Pohlman would send him 3 French Officers namely Honore Mercier and Perrin. Mr S says that Honore and Mercier positively refused to go but he thinks Perrin would go willingly. It was in consequence of this letter that Colonel Pohlman was induced at the urgent request of Mr S and the other English Officers to give them their discharge. Mr S heard that Major Brownrigg and Major Smith and all the other English Officers of Brownrigg's Brigade had left Cotah and gone over to the British Stations.

In Doderneques Brigade the only English Officer was Major Smith. The other officers in that Brigade to the best of Mr Stuart's recollection are as follows —

Chevalier Doderneques	Frenchman.
Monar Gernier	Do
Chaublet	Do
Permentier	Do
De La Fouchard	Do
Pepin	Do

and 3 other French Officers whose names Mr S does not remember. The officers of Brownrigg's Brigade are —

Major Brownrigg
 Captain Marshall
 Captain Harriet.
 Captain Lt. Atkins

Mr S knows nothing of Sindia's plans but at Adjuntce, it was reported that he was going to Hyderabad

Mr S heard a report that the Bhonsla's people had done nothing in the action, some said that the Bhonsla had gone over to the English. The Bhonsla was said to have had Infantry as well as Cavalry and that the Infantry had been sent back to Nagpur

Mr S understands that Sindia is forming a Brigade at Ujjain under the Command of an Armenian named Jacob, to whom a Jaidad has been assigned. Ujjain is a large walled town, the wall in bad repair. Sindia had an arsenal and foundry there. Some of the guns of the 1st Brigade having been cast there

Mr S knows no particulars of Holkar but understands that he has 4 or 5 Brigades of Infantry and about 200 Pieces of Cannon and an immense number of horse

Ambajee's Brigade marched towards Hindustan the day after Mr. S joined at Edlabad

Near Ujjain is the remainder of Filoses Brigade consisting of 6 or 7 Battalions under John Baptiste (indistinct) of French extraction, so that if Jacobs Brigade is completed there are 2 Brigades for the protection of Ujjain

Mr S first heard of the proclamation by His Excellency the Governor-General on the 14th of October when he arrived at Poona. He regrets that the proclamation did not reach Sindia's Camp, because he thinks it would have had very good effects as well among natives as Europeans

Mr S adds that when he was in the vicinity of Adjuntce a Despatch was received from General Perron accompanied by the articles of war which the several officers were desired to take a copy of and at the same time to take an oath that they would serve in or out of the Mahratta Territory. The officers however declined taking this oath which was not noticed particularly by Colonel Pohlman

When Mr S left Sindia's Camp, the troops were four months in arrears, a circumstance which was very unusual, it having been customary for the Troops to receive their pay regularly on the beginning of each month

With respect to Burhanpur, Mr S thinks that the wall of the place which is of stone and brick is about as high as the wall of the Fort of Nugger and would consequently be difficult to escalate although not capable of standing against Cannon. Mr S did not observe that any scarcity prevailed in Sindia's Camp. The Cavalry used to plunder the neighbouring country and bring grain to the Bazars and besides Bunjaras used to frequent the army in great numbers

Letter No 2 —It is a very important letter containing observations about the state of civil and military affairs of Dowlat Rao.

FROM—J MALCOLM, RESIDENT WITH DOWLAT RAO
SINDIA.

TO—THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL

Camp near Burhanpur, 6th February 1804

I have in attention to the instructions of the Hon'ble General Wellesley made every endeavour to ascertain the number of the Troops with Dowlat Rao Sindia and I have now the honor to enclose for your

Excellency's information a return which I believe contains a pretty correct statement of that part of the Maharaja's Army which is in the Deccan. I have subjoined a list of the Chiefs of Dowlat Rao Sindia and an estimate of the forces employed under their Command in Malwa and Hindustan but I am inclined to believe that little reliance is to be placed on the exactness of this general estimate though it is the best that I could obtain. I have annexed to this return a list of the principal officers of the Government and of the officers of the Province and of the Household. I have occasionally made such remarks opposite their names and those of the officers of the Army as seemed necessary to explain the nature of their respective stations to show the period at which they attained their present rank or the causes which have led to their promotion and I have also added some short explanatory notes and an account of the Bhyes of the late Madhaje Patil and those of Dowlat Rao Sindia.

2. This document as I am aware very incomplete but its purpose will be fully answered if it conveys a tolerably just idea of the present state of the Army of Dowlat Rao Sindia and affords your Excellencies general information of the names and stations of the principal Civil and Military Officers of that Chief's Government.

3. I have yet been too short a period at this Court to state with any confidence my sentiments of its character or to offer any positive opinions upon the conduct of the administration of the Maharaja's Government but I am too sensible of the importance which must attach (at the present moment) to every information however defective upon these subjects to hesitate in communicating to your Excellency the observations I have made since my arrival in this Camp.

4. It is difficult to discover the real character of a Prince who like Dowlat Rao Sindia succeeded to power before he had reached the years of maturity and who still continues (with the habits of youth) to prefer indulgence in pleasure to occupation in business and the pursuit of amusements to the cares of Government and consequently leaves the administration of all public affairs in the hands of Ministers agreeably to whose acts he at one time appears mild and generous and at another cruel and avaricious. As it is an allowed fact that this Chief is more deficient in application than in ability it may be expected that he will ever long see the necessity of a personal attention to his own interests as the only possible means by which he can hope to restore his dominions to a state of peace and prosperity.

5. The pride of Dowlat Rao Sindia has been severely wounded by the events of the late war and he has been willing to attribute his want of success to every cause but the real one the superior skill and valor of those to whom he was opposed. He has at one time expressed suspicion of the fidelity of his ministers and at another loaded his Army with reproaches. He went so far after the action of Assaye (at which his personal gallantry was conspicuous) as to beat with his own hand one of his principal Sardars whom he accused of cowardice and he has subsequently treated the Sardars of his Sillahdar Horse on several occasions with great ruthlessness and contempt and by this conduct alienated many from their attachment and increased the spirit of Mutiny and disaffection which had long pervaded the majority of that part of his Army who are at present upwards of fifteen months in arrears.

6. To this violence in the conduct of Dowlat Rao Sindia the defection of the Hindustan Chiefs Mohomad Khan Afrudee Bakander Khan Kummard Din Khan and others who left his Army with fifteen thousand Horse a few days after the Battle of Assaye may perhaps in some degree be attributed though this defection has been generally imputed to the impression which the success of that action made upon these Chiefs and to

the fall of the Prime Minister Yadoo Rao Bhaskar, whose personal influence and authority was very great and whose death caused a derangement in the affairs of Dowlat Rao, which is yet far from being remedied

7 The arrears of the Army are neither paid nor put into any train of liquidation. The infantry receive (in small advances on account) sufficient for their subsistence and the same attention is paid to such of the Horse as are immediately attached to the person of the Maharaja, but the others are neglected, except when the loudness of their clamours, or the violence of their actions forces them into notice when temporary expedients are used to pacify them for the moment, but no plan of final adjustment is ever adopted

8 The Sillahdar Leaders who remain with Sindia are bold in their remonstrances in proportion as they see that Chief dependant on their services and they are no longer kept in check as they were formerly by the Regular brigades (as there is only a skeleton of one of those Brigades with the Army) and they will therefore in all likelihood succeed in extorting some attention to their claims, though it is highly probable that their conduct on this occasion will alienate the mind of the Maharaja more than ever from the class of troops, and make him adopt early measures to restore the strength of his Pagah and Regular Infantry, the latter will however never reach its former excellence if he perseveres in his present intention of admitting no European and having all its officers either Hindus or Musalman

9 I am persuaded that Dowlat Rao Sindia does not possess the means of paying the whole of the arrears of his Army and the consequence must be that numbers of the Sillahdar Horse now in his service will disperse. He will however manage making grant of land assignment of Revenue and other expedients to retain most of the Chiefs and the men can be easily collected again if required. The only immediate danger he has to fear is that of an attack from Holkar before he has had time to reform his Army or to recruit his resources

10 If the Military officers of Dowlat Rao Sindia are in confusion, those of his Civil Administration are equally so not from any division of councils or from any existing intrigues against his Government, for unanimity prevails among his Ministers and the Bhyes of the late Madhajee Sindia who were the source of all former intrigue in his Camp and every(?) was submissive to his authority, but few of the members of the present temporary administration possess either influence or power and having no hope of long retaining their authority they find it difficult to carry on the common duties of their offices far less to attempt any of those energetic measures which appear so indispensable to extricate this Government from the state of distress in which it is involved

11 The relations of Jadoo Rao Bhaskar still continue to hold the offices they filled during the life of that minister with the exception of Anna the brother of the deceased who has lost his station of Bukshee but who yet retains the honorable post of Sicah Navese or Keeper of the Seal. They however no longer possess the power that should vest in their station, or meet with that support which is necessary to a performance of their duties, and the consequence is that the business of some of the Chief offices of the state is neglected and will continue to be so until an arrangement is made by which power is taken out of the hands of all in whom confidence is no longer placed

12 Bapu Vithal Mahadeo, the present Prime Minister, through a very old and attached servant of the Maharaja had neither from rank or ability any pretensions to the high office to which he has been raised. He was always a personal favourite with Dowlat Rao but during the life of Yadoo Rao was no more than Khass Movess or Controller of the household and

office of great trust but not of high rank. He seems to have been promoted at a moment of emergency from considerations which referred more to the ineligibility of others than to his superior fitness for the office. He is esteemed a good man and possesses the entire confidence of the Maharaja but his advanced age, the infirm state of his health and his want of family rank and consequently of powerful adherents are all serious obstacles against the successful execution of the arduous duties of his present station. He has however raised his reputation by the negotiation of the Treaty of Peace and it is not unlikely that he looks to the cultivation of the friendship of the British nation as a means of securing his personal authority as well as of advancing the interests of his master's Government.

13. It is the intention of the Maharaja to bring several of the friends and relations of the Ministers whom he executed at Poona in 1809 again into office. Whether he is impelled to this measure by motives of policy or of superstitions I know not. It is said by some that he has an opinion of the ability of those he means to employ while others affirm that it is deep contrition for the execrable crime of putting Brahmans to death which he now considers as the remote cause of all his misfortune that has made him adopt this resolution and that he is determined by heaping favour on the friends and relations of the deceased to make all the atonement in his power for his former guilt. Whatever be the motive the fact is certain. Yeesubah the Karkoon of the late Jubah Dada is appointed Paishkar of the Buxshee and has received charge of that high office from Annah the duties of which he is directed to perform as Paishkar till the arrival of Krishen Rao the son of the unfortunate Narain Rao Buxshee who was put to death at Poona and the grandson of Jubah Dada who was Buxshee during the life of Madhaji Sindia and for some time after the accession of Dowlat Rao. Krishen Rao who is quite a youth is now in the Concan but he has been ordered to hasten to Burhanpur and the Maharaja has requested me to write to the Resident at Poona to facilitate his journey. Jujoba (a Shenavee Bramin) the tribe to which all the ministers that were put to death belonged and who held office when they were in power is now on his way to this Court from Nagpur while a brother of the late Luckwa Dada is I am told expected from Hindustan.

14. It was some time ago reported that the Maharaja had an intention of recalling Serjee Rao Gantkee to the administration of his affairs and the partiality of Dowlat Rao to his youngest wife Bajzeah Bai who is the Daughter of that Chief made the fact not improbable but this intention if it ever existed is certainly at this moment abandoned or the friends and relations of the former ministers would never have been sent for as they cannot but consider Serjee Rao (under whose influence Sindia acted when those ministers were put to death) as the immediate cause of all their misfortunes. The return of Serjee Rao Gantka to power would also be opposed by the adherents of the late Yadoo Rao Bhaskar as he was a personal enemy of that minister and they would be joined by all the Brahmans who hold employment under this Government who speak of the cruelty of Serjee Rao's disposition and the turbulence of his conduct with horror. Yet in spite of their serious obstacles men well acquainted with this Court think it not impossible that the influence of Baiza Bai (assisted by some of the Mahratta Chiefs) may at a future period effect the restoration of her father to power and whenever that event occurs it will be attended with a change in many of the principal and almost all the subordinate officers of Government.

15. The consequences of the insubordination of the Military and of the unsettled state of the Civil Administration of the Government of Dowlat Rao Sindia are ruinous to the dominions of that Chief. Those who have Military power direct it to the attainment of plunder while those who have civil authority are exclusively engaged in schemes for the promotion

of their own interests and make no efforts to restore the affairs of the state to order and prosperity, because they expect to derive no personal advantage from that object being effected

16 From every information I have received, the territories of Dowlat Rao Sindia in Malwa are in a very desolate state. Of the condition of those in Khandesh, I can give your Lordship no adequate idea, that province is a complete desert, all the villages are abandoned and their inhabitants have removed to the Camp of Dowlat Rao Sindia as their only place of refuge from the excesses of the licensed plunderers of the Army of that Chief, while the grain was ripe and upon the ground they supported themselves without difficulty, but since it has been cut down and destroyed, they have experienced all the miseries of want and famine. Numbers of them perish daily nor can they return to their habitations even if they had the means of supporting life while this Army is in the province as they would be there continually exposed to the attacks and violence of foraging and marauding parties. The number of these inhabitants with the Army which is very great has added much to the general distress and is indeed one cause of the present exorbitant price of grain, the coarsest kind of which is now selling at three seers the rupee and there is I fear but slender expectations of recurring any plentiful supplies.

17 Under such circumstances it becomes a matter of astonishment that Sindia does not detach the majority of his Army into Malwa. It is now some time that a large body of his troops have been under orders to proceed to that province. Their march is I am informed delayed for want of money and as this is a want which must every day become more pressing on one part and more difficult to answer on the other it is likely to prove the source of very serious embarrassment.

18 It is thought by many that the strength of Holkar in Malwa and the recent doubtful conduct of that Chief are the causes which prevent Sindia from returning to his capital and make him even hesitate in sending part of his army into that province. From this apprehension if it really exists Dowlat Rao can only be relieved by entering into Defensive Engagements with the British Nation, for the present situation of his affairs are in my opinion such that if he returns to Ujjain without having formed that connection he must either fall under the power of his rival or admit his influence to an extent that will oblige him to adopt every measure which Holkar may dictate, and the magnitude of the evils which might result from the occurrence of either of these events is such as to make the immediate conclusion of a Defensive Alliance between the English Government and that of Dowlat Rao Sindia, an object of the highest political importance, and one essential as far as I can judge to the preservation of that tranquillity which has been so recently established.

Letter No 3—This letter without the name of the writer must have been written by Major John Malcolm, Resident with Dowlat Rao Sindhia, to the Governor-General. It is an important letter indicating how some important officers of Dowlat Rao Sindia became stipendiaries or pensioners of the British Government.

The letter is mutilated slightly

FROM—J MALCOLM, RESIDENT WITH DOWLAT RAO SINDHIA,

TO—THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL

Camp near Buihanpur, the 17th February 1804.

In attention to the instructions of the Hon'ble Major General Wellesley, I early intimated to this Court my desire of making an arrangement for the fulfilment of the 7th article of the Treaty of Peace particularly, of that part of it which related to the Chiefs and Officers who by

its stipulations were to receive pensions or assignments of land from the Hon'ble Company & Government and I proposed to grant decars or Sunnads to the persons whom the Maharaja might name and to take such other measures as appeared necessary for the complete accomplishment of this important article

2 I was surprised to find that the ministers of the Maharaja had taken serious alarm at the terms of this article which they contended would (if carried into execution agreeable to its literal sense) operate very injuriously to the authority of Dowlat Rao Sindia as it would make his own servants to a certain degree independent of his authority and cause them to look to another Government for the support which the relation in which they stood demanded that they should exclusively expect from him and the Ministers upon these grounds urgently represented to me the necessity of attending more to the spirit than the letter of this article and expressed their hope that I would make an arrangement to grant that aid to the Government of Sindia which its stipulations were evidently intended to afford in a mode which would be less objectionable than that I proposed and that instead of assigning (the amount stipulated to be given by the 7th article) to different Chiefs I would consent to pay it to such public officers as the Maharaja might name to receive it and that it would be distributed by them among the officers of the states whom the prince might think most in want of assistance

3 I thought it expedient to be very explicit with the Ministers of the Maharaja upon this occasion and after expressing my astonishment at what they had stated I informed them that their construction of that part of the 7th article which related to the assignment of lands or grants of pension as a remuneration to those chiefs or officers who had suffered by the general arrangement made at the conclusion of the Treaty of Peace appeared to me as foreign to the spirit as it was to the letter of the stipulation of that article. That if a doubt could be expressed about the meaning and the expression so clear that it must be removed by a moment's attention to the immediate preceding part of the same article which was from its nature more specific. That it was in that preceding article expressly stipulated that Bala Bave Saheb and others should continue to enjoy the Jagheers they before held under the protection of the Hon'ble Company and that it of course followed that the other grants which were stated in the same article and which were clearly made from the same motives and which rested upon the same principles must be regularised by the same rules. That the ministers could not however forget the strong representation which they had made to the Hon'ble General Wellesley of the great loss and distress which would fall upon many individuals from the cession of such a large portion of territory as Dowlat Rao Sindia had made to the British Government and its allies and that they well knew that the liberal stipulations of the 7th article were the consequence of such representation. That these stipulations were meant for the benefit of those chiefs and officers in the service of Dowlat Rao Sindia who had suffered by the Treaty of Peace and the annual amount which the English Government had from such generous considerations consented to pay on this account could not be applied to another object without a departure from that treaty. That the condition of the 7th article which gave Dowlat Rao Sindia the right to name the persons who were to receive under its stipulations pensions or grants from the Hon'ble Company afforded the most unequivocal proof of the friendship of the British Government for that Prince as by that condition they had put it in his power to reward the most meritorious of his servants for their past and to secure them provision adequate to the payment of the future services. That I could not well conceive what ground there could be for the apprehension which the

ministers had stated of the Maharaja's authority suffering by this article being carried into execution agreeably to the terms of the treaty, but I was willing with a view to guard against any possible evil of that nature to insert a clause in the deed or Sunnud which I granted, which should make such Sunnud forfeit in the event of the party holding it being guilty of treachery or treason against the person or the Government of the Maharaja and I concluded by remarking to the ministers that though the 7th article strictly interpreted (indistinct) appear to exclude all Chiefs (indistinct) those who had actually lost possessions in Hindustan from benefiting by its stipulations, that it was not my intention to insist upon such interpretation as I was assured from the liberal spirit in which that article was dictated that it was not the intention of those by whom it was framed, to limit the Maharaja in the selection of the persons whom he judged best to remunerate for the losses they might have sustained by the events of the War or by the settlement of the peace.

4 The ministers were far from being satisfied with those sentiments and they continued for a period to press with unremitting earnestness the plan which they had first proposed upon my adoption. I however never gave them the slightest cause to hope for success and never failed at every interview to point out to them how much they neglected the interests of their master's Government by delaying the fulfilment of an article which gave him such power of satisfying the demands of his principal chiefs and I further intimated that when the arrangement was made in a manner (torn) to the Treaty that I should endeavour to show the friendship of the Government I represented to that of the Maharaja by making every exertion in my power to relieve the urgent wants of such of his chiefs who were in camp and who might be named to participate in the liberality of the British Government by granting them bills for an advance of their respective pensions.

5 This offer combined with their despair of effecting the arrangement which they wished has at last reduced the Maharaja's ministers to assent to the stipulations of the seventh article being carried into execution in the way I originally proposed and I have the honour to transmit a list which I have this morning received from Dowlat Rao Sindia of the Chiefs and officers among whom it is his wish that the amount stipulated in the seventh article should be divided.

6 I have made out and delivered the Sunnu's to such of the chiefs as are now in camp and I shall deliver those belonging to such as are absent to their agents in order that they may be forwarded. I have the honour to enclose for your Excellency's information a translation of one of these Sunnuds which are all exactly the same both in form and expression.

7 Your Excellency will observe that all the principal officers of this court are included in the list which I have the honour to enclose. The conditions upon which they have received this favour are (I have reason to believe) that their pensions or a proportion of them shall be applied to the support of Horse either Sillahdar or Pagah. This circumstance while it adds to the strength of Dowlat Rao Sindia as long as he continues friendly to the British Government must operate very powerfully to prevent any future rupture between him and that nation. The majority of chief officers about his court will not only depend for the most certain part of their annual income on the Company's Government but their followers who must be from the situation of the chiefs among the troops on which the Maharaja places the most dependence, will be liberally paid by the same state and the occurrence of a War would not only be attended with the loss of a considerable and permanent revenue to the Chiefs but would (indis-

inct) a necessity on Dowlat Rao Sindia to make an immediate provision for the payment of their followers and in a Government whose disbursements will always be likely to meet if not exceed its receipts and in which there does not exist the slightest knowledge of political economy an immediate arrangement which would satisfy the different chiefs for the loss which they had sustained by the stoppage of their pensions or confiscation of their Jaghirs and that would provide for the support of their followers would be very difficult if not impossible

8 Your Excellency will observe that the Decds or Sunnuds are made only for the term of the natural life of the parties to which they are granted. On the death of the possessor of a Sunnud it will remain to be decided by the wisdom of the British Government whether such grant is to be renewed or not and if motives of humanity to the family of the deceased or of consideration for the exigencies of this state dictate its renewal the original obligation will be revived and its impression improved

9 Whatever may be your Excellency's final determination on the point which (torn) at the option of the English Government of granting the amount stipulated in the seventh article in pension to be (torn) OR IN ASSIGNMENTS of land ventured to suppose from the present situation of affairs that for the first year the payment must be made in money and with a view of alleviating the distress of this Army which is very great and of relieving some of the chiefs included in the enclosed list from Dharna (a state of confinement) in which they have been placed for near a month past by their own troops I have agreed to grant bills for an amount of four or five lakhs of rupees among the principal sirdars in camp in advance of their respective pensions. By negotiating with the Soucars they will be able to satisfy such claims of their followers as appear most urgent and I cannot have a doubt but such effectual assistance granted at a moment of extreme exigency will make the most favourable impression both on their minds and that of Dowlat Rao Sindia and be considered as a proof of the sincerity and of the friendship of the British Government.

10 To prevent any confusion in the amount of the sum fixed for these pensions or grants it has been fixed at fifteen lacks. The Jagir granted to Bala Bhye and others in the seventh article are declared to be under two lacks and I have agreed to the solicitation of the Maharaja that if such statement be found to be correct to allow the name of the Nabab Meer Khan the son of Syed Khan formerly Nazim of the Dohab of Dehli to be included in the list with Bala Bhye etc. to complete the amount of two lacks. I shall however write your Excellency particularly on that subject as soon as I can obtain a distinct account of the village and lands included in these Jagheers

Letter No 4 —The letter contains directions regarding his conduct in case war breaks out. All the possibilities are suggested and directions are issued as to how he should conduct himself under different situations. Further Dowlat Rao has to be required to oust Sarjl Rao Chafgay from his service because of his hostile disposition towards the British

From the Secretary to Government to the Resident with Dowlat Rao Sindia, dated the 22nd December 1804. This follows an enclosure to a letter of the same date from Edmonstone to Elphinstone

Fort William dated the 22nd December 1804

List of persons who have been named by the Maharaja Dowlat Rao Sindia Bahadur to receive under the 7th Article of the Treaty of Peace

Pensions or Jagirs at the option of the British Government with the amount to be assigned to each person.—

Bhau Gopal Rao Bahader	4 lacks of rupees
Sadashiv Mahadeo	2 lacks of rupees.
Kishan Rao Narain Bukshee	3 do
Bappoo Etul Pant	2 do
Selwajee Phalkeea	50,000
Bapuji Sindia	50,000
Gulab Rao Kadam	50,000
Jeswant Rao Sindia	25,000
Raghojee Kadam	25,000
•	2,00,000
Total	15,00,000

*The names of the persons to whom it is the Maharaja's intention to give these two lacks will I am informed be sent to me tomorrow

I am directed by His Excellency the Most Noble the Governor-General to acknowledge the receipt of your several dispatches of the dates noted in the margin

2 The reports contained in your dispatches, combined with those which have been received from the Resident at Nagpur and from other quarters have appeared to justify at different times different, and even opposite, conclusions with regard to the designs of those Chieftains. The desultory and precarious principles of action which regulate the conduct of proceeding of those Chieftains preclude the practicability of forming a confident opinion of their views from the apparent tendency of their measures, or the obvious bias of their interests. It is probable indeed that the views of those Chieftains vary according to the temporary aspect or supposed condition of affairs. Without entering therefore into any speculative discussion of the nature of their actual designs, His Excellency the Governor-General deems it proper to contemplate and provide for every case which under the state of our information with regard to the proceedings of Dowlat Rao Sindia, the Raja of Berar and Ameer Khan can reasonably be supposed to arise and to furnish you with instructions for the regulation of your conduct under any contingency. The cases which it appears necessary to contemplate are

First The junction of the forces of Dowlat Rao Sindia and the Raja of Berar for purposes hostile to the British Government or its allies the Soubahdar of the Deccan

Secondly The junction of the forces of those Chieftains for the purposes of opposing Ameer Khan

Thirdly The combination of the forces of Dowlat Rao Sindia and Ameer Khan for the purpose of acting against the British Government or the state of Hyderabad

Fourthly The combination of the forces of those Chieftains for the purpose of attacking the Raja of Berar's dominions

Fifthly The prosecution of hostilities against the Raja of Berar's dominions by Ameer Khan independantly of Sindia's co-operation.

Sixthly The combination of the Raja of Berar with Ameer Khan independantly of Dawlat Rao Sindia.

3 His Excellency the Governor General is inclined to disbelieve the existence of any combination between Dowlat Rao Sindia and the Raja of Berar against the British Government or its ally rather by the tenor of the late reports of the Resident at Nagpur with respect to the conduct of the Raja of Berar and the state of affairs in that Chieftain's country than by any confidence in the amicable tendency of Dawlat Rao Sindia's counsels. Those reports have suggested to His Excellency's mind the probability that a junction of the forces of those Chieftains might be concerted for the purpose of opposing Ameer Khan whose Pindaries have actually ravaged a part of the Raja of Berar's territory. In that event the project will of course be moved by the Raja of Berar. The reality of any such project however must be determined by collateral facts and circumstances for such an avowal might obviously be made with a view to cover designs of an hostile nature. Under any other circumstances therefore than a firm and well founded persuasion that the object of a proposed junction of the forces of Dawlat Rao Sindia with those of the Raja of Berar is to oppose the troops of Ameer Khan you will remonstrate in the strongest terms against the junction of the forces of those Chieftains.

4 You will state to Dowlat Rao Sindia the grounds on which the suspicion of his hostile designs is founded adverting at the same time to the intelligence which you have received of the correspondence of Serjee Rao Ghutkar with the enemy and to the obvious concurrence of the movements of Sindia's forces with the tenor of your intelligence you will observe to Dowlat Rao Sindia that under actual circumstances the junction of his forces with those of the Raja of Berar and even his continuance within the territory of the Raja of Berar or near its frontier can only be ascribed to the intended prosecution of objects incompatible with the preservation of amity and alliance with the British Government. That therefore the British Government possesses an undoubted right to require that Dowlat Rao Sindia should afford the only demonstration of a pacific spirit which can be considered satisfactory by retiring with his troops within the limits of his own territories.

5. That the British Government will not be induced by promises and professions alone to abandon the effectual means which the state and position of our armies at present afford of immediately repressing and avenging any hostile attempt on the part of Dowlat Rao Sindia and of the Raja of Berar nor will it consent to be exposed to the inconvenience and expense of a constant state of Military preparation against hostile designs on the part of those Chieftains for the prosecution of which they have already provided by a combination of their respective forces. You will accordingly distinctly apprise Dowlat Rao Sindia that his refusal to comply with the just and reasonable requisition of the British Government will be considered by His Excellency the Governor General to constitute a proof of the treachery and hostility of his designs and will infallibly produce a renewal of the War which can only terminate in his own destruction.

6 You will take that occasion to remind Dowlat Rao Sindia of the assistance which the British Government voluntarily offered for the re-establishment of his Government. You will inform him that notwithstanding his total inactivity in the War and the doubtful tenor of his late conduct the British Government is still disposed to afford that assistance and to perform its promise of placing in his hands a considerable portion of the territory conquered from Jeswant Rao Holkar provided that the counsels of Dowlat Rao Sindia shall be regulated by a corresponding spirit

of amity and alliance You will conclude by assuring Dowlat Rao Sindia of the sincere disposition of the British Government to maintain the relation of amity and alliance, which can only be dissolved by a course of conduct on his part inconsistent with those relations and involving an unprecedented degree of public treachery and ingratitude

7 It is the expectation of the Governor-General that by the time when you will receive this dispatch the Hon'ble Major General Wellesley will have reached the Army of the Deccan but with a view to provide for the event of Major General Wellesley's absence, His Excellency has deemed it expedient provisionally to vest Colonel Close (who has been directed to proceed to the Army on his way to the Camp of Dowlat Rao Sindia) with the power of regulating and controlling your proceedings You are accordingly directed regularly to report your proceedings to the Honourable Major General Wellesley and to Colonel Close and you will conform to whatever instructions you may receive from either of those officers

8 Under any state of issue of this prescribed negotiation therefore you will not quit the camp of Dowlat Rao Sindia until you shall have received instructions to quit it either from the Hon'ble Major General Wellesley or from Colonel Close

9 These instructions are obviously applicable to the case of the actual junction of the forces of Dowlat Rao Sindia with those of the Raja of Berar for purposes hostile to the British Government or its ally the Subadar of the Deccan

10 The second supposed case, namely, the junction of the forces of Dowlat Rao Sindia and the Raja of Berar for the purpose of opposing Ameer Khan does not appear to the Governor-General to require any special instruction for the regulation of your conduct

11 You will of course regulate your proceedings by the spirit of the preceding instructions in the event of your having reason to be satisfied that Sindia has resolved to co-operate with Ameer Khan against the British power in the manner stated in the third supposed case

12 With regard to the 4th supposed event namely the combination of the forces of Dowlat Rao Sindia and Ameer Khan for the purpose of attacking the possessions of the Raja of Berar, I am directed to observe, that whilst Ameer Khan shall continue in the condition of an enemy of the British Government any combination of the forces of those Chieftains constitutes an act of positive hostility, on the part of Dowlat Rao Sindia You will, therefore, address the necessary remonstrances to Dowlat Rao Sindia in the event of an expected union of the forces of those Chieftains, whatever may be the object of such union

13 No special instructions to you are requisite with reference to the prosecution of hostilities against the Raja of Berar's possessions by Ameer Khan independently of Dowlat Rao Sindia or to the combination of the Raja of Berar with Ameer Khan as stated under the 5th and 6th heads of supposed cases

14 His Excellency the Governor-General now deems it necessary to furnish you with instructions for the regulation of your conduct with reference both to the continuance of the same ambiguous state of Dowlat Rao Sindia's views and proceedings at the time when you shall receive this dispatch as that which existed at the date of your last dispatches and to the success of your remonstrances in dissuading Dowlat Rao Sindia from the adoption of any of the plans of hostility described in the preceding part of this dispatch, which under the pervicious influence of Serjee Rao Ghautka, he may actually have resolved to undertake

15 The information which the Governor General already possesses with regard to the proceedings of Sindia's durbar and His Excellency's knowledge of the character and disposition of Serjee Rao Ghautka have satisfied His Excellency's mind that the views of that Minister are decidedly hostile to the British Government that he has maintained a traitorous correspondence with the enemy and that by his ascendancy over the mind of Dowlat Rao Sindia he has regulated the movements of that Chieftain's troops and the proceedings of his Government with a view to the accomplishment of his plan of hostility against the British power That Sindia's actual violation of his former engagements and his provocation of any of the projecting hostility described in the dispatch are to be ascribed to the pernicious counsels of Serjee Rao Ghautka

16 It is not just that the interest of the British Government should be exposed to hazard by the intrigues of that Minister with the enemies of our power and by the operation of his ascendancy in the counsels of our ally and His Excellency has resolved to render the conduct of Serjee Rao Ghautka the grounds of a distinct proposition for the removal of that pernicious Minister unless such a change of circumstances should occur as would satisfy His Excellency's mind that the Government of Dowlat Rao Sindia would hereafter be conducted on principles more consistent with the interests and security of the British Government and with the relations of Amity and Alliance between the two states

17 Unconnected, however with acts of positive hostility the Governor General will not consider Dowlat Rao Sindia's refusal to dismiss Serjee Rao Ghautka from his counsels to constitute a justifiable ground of War The alternative of Sindia's refusal must be a declaration on the part of the British Government that no distinction can hereafter be drawn between the acts of Dowlat Rao Sindia and those of Serjee Rao Ghautka and that if Sindia subsequently to the remonstrance of the British Government shall retain Ghautka at the head of affairs Sindia must be held responsible for all Ghautka's acts and that in this case any hostility provoked by Ghautka against the British Government will be retaliated upon Sindia or in other words that the British Government must be indemnified at the expense of Sindia's Government for every act of His Minister which may be injurious to our rights interests or security

18 On the basis of these resolutions you are directed that in the cases prescribed to demand a private audience of Dowlat Rao Sindia and to make a representation to him founded on the following topics

19 You will state to Dowlat Rao Sindia the information which you possess with regard to the traitorous correspondence maintained by Serjee Rao Ghautka and the circumstances which substantiate the truth of that information You will advert to the entire ascendancy of that Minister over the Counsels of Dowlat Rao Sindia and to the necessary inference from that notorious fact that the measures of his Government are regulated by the advice of Serjee Rao Ghautka and that therefore the several acts of his Government (which you will take this opportunity of enumerating) either constituting a total disregard of the obligation of his engagement with the British power or being acts of (torn) hostility against the British Government are to be ascribed to the pernicious counsels of Serjee Rao Ghautka

20 You will advert to the spirit of hostility against the British Government which notoriously actuates Ghautka and which has been uniformly manifested since his accession to power especially in the late proceedings of Dowlat Rao Sindia's Government under the guidance of his influence and you will refer to the judgment of Dowlat Rao Sindia whether the British Government can repose any degree of confidence in his amicable

professions or can reasonably expect from his Government a conduct consistent with a state of alliance or even of amity, while his affairs are administered by a person of Serjee Rao Ghautka's character and principles. You will observe to Dowlat Rao Sindia that while his affairs are so administered, it would be absurd in the British Government to afford the pecuniary aid which it has conditionally promised for the relief of his embarrassments and for the establishment of his authority within his reserved dominions since not only the British Government, would possess no ground of security for the application of such pecuniary aid to its intended purposes but would have ample reason to believe that it would be applied to purposes injurious to our interests. You will conclude by stating that hitherto the Governor-General has been disposed to separate the acts and disposition of Dowlat Rao Sindia from those of Sarjee Rao Ghaut but if Dowlat Rao Sindia still thinks proper to consign the conduct of affairs to that person and to yield to the influence of his pernicious Counsels, that distinction must be withdrawn and Dowlat Rao Sindia must be rendered alone responsible for every act of administration.

21 It is possible, however, that at the period of time when you will receive this dispatch a change of circumstances such as is described at the close of the 16th paragraph may have occurred in the Durbar of Dowlat Rao Sindia. In that event you will of course consider yourself authorized to suspend the prescribed representation on the subject of the dismissal of Serjee Rao Ghautka. Under any result of that representation, you will urge the necessity of Sindia's removing his Army from a position favourable to the prosecution of designs hostile to the British Government and the expediency of his return to his capital for the purpose of settling his Government. The instructions contained in the 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th paragraphs of this dispatch are applicable to this prescribed requisition and you will accordingly be regulated by the spirit of those instructions in requiring the removal of Sindia's forces from any position manifestly and designedly calculated to enable that Chieftain to support the cause of the enemy.

22 You will observe that no occurrence or contingency stated in this dispatch can absolve the British Government from the obligation of paying to Sindia an equivalent for the revenue received (if any have been received) on account of Dholpore Raja Kerra.

23 I am directed to apprise you that a British force will probably be detached for the prosecution of active operations against the troops of Ameer Khan and that this measure will not be affected by the occurrence of any of the cases described at the commencement of this dispatch.

24 Corresponding instructions will be immediately transmitted to the Resident at Nagpore of which a copy will be transmitted to you for your information.

25 I am directed to take this opportunity of signifying to you His Excellency in Council's entire approbation of the ability and discretion which you have manifested in conducting the duties of the Residency since the decease of Mr. Webbe.

26 A copy of these instructions will be transmitted to the Hon'ble Major General Wellesley and to the Resident at Poona and Nagpur.

P S—You will have observed that the instructions of His Excellency the Governor-General to the Resident at Poona, dated the 4th instant, a copy of which was transmitted to you in my dispatch of the same date, contains the expression of His Excellency's intention to furnish that officer with detailed directions for the conduct of his negotiations at the

Court of Dowlat Rao Sindia I am now directed to signify to you that this letter comprizes the subject of those proposed directions. In the possible event therefore of the arrival of Colonel Cloak at the Camp of Dowlat Rao Sindia before you shall have been enabled to act under orders conveyed in this dispatch you will desire that officer to consider those orders as constituting the instructions to which my dispatch of the 4th instant refers

Letter No 5—The letter is important and speaks for itself. Sarji Rao Ghatgay is reported to have ordered the Pindaries to attack the British Resident's Camp

FROM—R JENKINS ACTING RESIDENT WITH DOWLAT RAO SINDHIA

TO—N B EDMONSTONE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT FORT WILLIAM

Camp at Saugor the 26th January 1805

I lose no time in apprizing you for the information of His Excellency the Most Noble the Governor General that the Camp of the British Resident was overwhelmed and plundered by the whole body of the Pindaries who attacked it within about a mile from Sindia's Camp. In this unparalleled and atrocious affair I am concerned to state that Doctor Wise and Lieutenant Green have been severely wounded myself accompanied by Lieut Stewart had gone to the Durbar for the purpose of taking leave. Excepting a single tent I have not obtained restitution of any of the plundered property while the numbers of the wounded people and the total loss of all articles apparel, and defence have placed us in the most deplorable situation. The Maharaja himself has expressed the utmost sorrow and regret and has promised to restore the whole of the property but it is a notorious fact that the Pindaries were ordered to the attack by Serji Rao Ghatka and it is generally believed that they were joined by a large body from the Pumpoos and from the other parts of the Maharaja's Camp

My want of writing implements and every other convenience prevents my enlarging at present upon the particulars of this affair which exceeds the most infamous atrocity ever recorded in the Annals of the most barbarous nations

Letter No 6—In this letter Jenkins describes the unfriendly attitude of Dowlat Rao Sindhia and the attack on his camp by the Pindaries inspired as he suspects by Sarji Rao Ghatgay

FROM—R JENKINS RESIDENT WITH DOWLAT RAO SINDHIA

TO—N B EDMONSTONE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

Camp at Saugor the 28th January 1805.

In my dispatch under date the 26th instant I had the honour to apprise you of the extraordinary situation in which this Residency had been placed by the infamous exertion of power exercised by Serjee Rao Ghatka. I have now the pleasure to state in detail the circumstances of that atrocity as well as the events which preceded its perpetration

My dispatch of the 22nd instant described an insulting message which I had received from the Durbar in answer to my demand for passport to assist my journey according to the resolution expressed in that dispatch

I made a march on the 23rd instant of about fourteen miles. Previously to my departure I was visited by Ramchander Annah accompanied by Ballajee an old adherent of the late Madhajeo Sindia. They as usual were full of professions and promised that Sindia would march on the following day, but expressed in the strongest terms my sense of the insult which I conceived the British Government in my person to have received, and as they could not vouch for the march of Sindia's army on that day I broke from their entreaties and pursued my march.

Immediately upon receiving intimation of my departure, Dowlat Rao Sindia dispatched Juggoba Bappoo the present Bukshee, and Annah to follow me, and late in the evening these officers arrived at the place of our encampment. They opened their mission by enlarging on the distance to which they had followed me accordingly to the Maharaja's orders as a proof of the sincerity with which Sindia desired to preserve peace and as an inducement to my return, they solemnly pledged themselves that if I would march to Camp in the morning the Maharaja would positively proceed in the direction of Uraon on the day following my arrival. I refused to return upon that simple assertion which had been so frequently imposed on me merely to deceive, demanded whether they came with any power from the Maharaja to agree to such conditions I might think proper to propose and to be responsible for their acceptance by Dowlat Rao Sindia. After considerable hesitation they avowed that the Maharaja had authorized them to pledge his name for the performance of any conditions which could induce me to return and the conditions which I thought proper to propose were —

1 That on the day following return to Camp, Dowlat Rao Sindia should commence his march to Ugein to which place he should proceed without any further halt than the usual and necessary intervals.

2 That Sindia should act in conformity to my advice respecting Ambajee without any further delay.

3 That Sindia should comply with my advice to disavow in a letter to the Governor-General the conduct of Ambajee and of the Vakeel at Hyderabad, and that letters of recall to the latter person should be delivered to me in order to their transmission through the Resident at that Court.

I have omitted to mention that I had acted in conformity to the instructions transmitted in your dispatch of the ultimo, respecting Saccaram Punt.

Juggoba Bappoo and Annah having agreed in the most solemn manner to my propositions and the Sicca Navees in particular appealing to the rank of this Colleague as a further inducement to my reliance, I deemed it proper to assent. I accordingly returned to Camp on the morning of the 24th as I trusted that even the movements of Sindia's Army from Saugor might afford time for Colonel Close's arrival from whose presence I still anxiously hoped that any error or indiscretion of my conduct might be refrained. Although I must express my belief that the manner in which the expected arrival of that officer was understood by the Durbar combined with the characteristic idea which amongst the Marattas attaches to individual's characters, a distinction of public measures has in a great measure contributed to lessen the authority of my official situation (?).

Without any official message from the Durbar to account for or to excuse its conduct, I understood in the evening that it was the Maharaja's intention to halt on the following day in direct contempt of the assurances upon which I had consented to return to Camp. I, therefore, again moved out and had proceeded a short distance from the ground of encampment,

when understanding that the Maharaja wished to receive a visit from me previously to my departure, I ordered the baggage to be halted at a grove in the vicinity of the camps and proceeded with Lieut Stewart to the tents of Dowlat Rao Sindia

After exchanging the usual compliments of civility the Maharaja confessed the impropriety of which he had been guilty in omitting to march but excused it by saying that he had halted for the purpose of conferring with me personally upon the line of conduct which he should pursue. I informed His Highness that understanding he had expressed a wish for my attendance I should have thought it is disrespectful to depart without complying with his commands and that I would take that opportunity of repeating my request to be provided with usual safeguard and passports for my journey from Camp. The Maharaja replied that when I should have heard what he had to propose he trusted I would abandon my resolution and at the same time desired that I would order my Baggage to return to its former encampment near his tents. He then said that he had determined to comply with all my demands that day respecting Ambajee etc and that he would commence his march towards Ujjain on the following morning

I signified to Dowlat Rao Sindia that I could not consent again to encamp until I could receive greater proof than verbal assurances of the Maharaja's sincerity and I desired that the letters which I required should be written and dispatched in my presence. The conversation that ensued it would be tedious to His Excellency's patience to relate but perceiving that I continued firm in my resolution to march I was requested to retire to a separate place with Juggoba Bappoo Annah Sicea Navees and Bappoo Chitnavis and that the letters should be executed according to my dictation

Lieutenant Stewart and myself accordingly retired to a little distance with those Ministers the Maharaja continuing to sit in Durbar and the letters dictated by me to His Excellency to Ambajee Inglia and Saccaram Punt the latter of whom the Maharaja disavowed to be his Agent were in a state of preparation when I was informed that the Maharaja wished to retire for the purpose of performing his morning devotions which had been interrupted by my visit and that Ram Rao should be left to witness the completion of the letters and to carry them for my approval that if they were not entirely worded according to my pleasure I could return in the evening to suggest the necessary alterations. Having no reason to suspect their sincerity I accordingly returned to take my leave of Dowlat Rao Sindia and immediately sent to recall the Baggage but before the message could be delivered the party had been surrounded and overpowered by the whole body of Pindaries although it is a duty which I have much satisfaction in performing to the State that the exertions of Lieut Green aided by Doctor Wise and the native commissioned and non-commissioned officers of the small body of men composing the Resident's escort were correspondent with the situation of extraordinary difficulty and danger in which they were so unexpectedly placed

With respect to our future destination I can only at present describe that we are completely defenceless and unable either to march with the army or to find a place of retreat and I am entirely ignorant of Sindia's intentions with respect to the late proceedings. This army is at present employed in battering the Fort of Sagur and will probably continue here some days. The absolute power at present exercised by Gautika as well over the whole of the army as over the weak mind of Dowlat Rao Sindia renders it impossible for me to judge of the probable result of such a flagrant outrage. Whatever may be that result however, His Excellency

will I trust believe that an uniform sense of dignity and power of the British name and nation will ever actuate my conduct, and I am confident of reciprocal support from the gentlemen of this Residency in maintaining the unsullied honour of my representative character

I take occasion to acknowledge the receipt of His Excellency's instructions conveyed in your dispatch of the 22nd ultimo and I beg leave to express my sense of the pleasing terms of approbation with which His Excellency has thought proper to notice my proceedings in the conduct of this Residency. From the general tenor of my dispatches His Excellency will perceive that the state of circumstances at this Durbar were such as to have rendered it in my judgment necessary to adopt decisive measures previously to the receipt of His Excellency's commands and I feel confident that my conduct will meet with every indulgence which it may appear to His Excellency's liberality to deserve

Letter No 7 —It conveys the information that the Sindhia was secretly in league with the Holkar and Ameer Khan with hostile intentions against the British, and that the two documents which contained this information had been lost as a result of the Pindaries' attack on his camp.

FROM—R JENKINS, RESIDENT WITH DOWLAT RAO SINDHIA,

TO—N B EDMONSTONE, SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

Camp at Saugor, the 8th February 1805

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatch in duplicate under date the 5th ultimo and I have to solicit the pardon of His Excellency the Most Noble the Governor-General for omitting to furnish a particular statement of the proofs which I had obtained of the correspondence of this Government with Holkar and Ameer Khan

The entire loss of all documents in common with the other effects of this Residency will not allow me to submit with the correctness I could wish the precise grounds of the opinions stated in my dispatches, but in obedience to His Excellency's commands I have now the honour to describe as far as my memory will permit, the nature of the proofs in my possession at the period to which your dispatch refers

The first documents which I obtained were two papers delivered to me by the secret intelligence in this Camp as authentic copies of letters dispatched to Holkar and Ameer Khan the former intimating the intention of Dowlat Rao Sindia to collect his troops at Sagur and to proceed by the way of Bundelkhund for the purpose of taking possession of that country and of joining Holkar requesting at the same time that Holkar would order Ameer Khan to unite his forces with Dowlat Rao Sindia at Sagur. The letter to Ameer Khan containing invitations to that Chief to join the Army of the Maharaja whom he was to consider the ally of Holkar and mentioning that a confidential person should be dispatched to settle matters with him. A few days subsequent to the dispatch of these letters a Vakeel named Tolk Ramnochander Prabhoo proceeded to the Camp of Meer Khan and subsequently to the army of Eshwunt Rao Holkar with instructions correspondent to the spirit of these letters

At the same time Cundoo Punt the Vakeel of Holkar attended publicly the Durbar, and every intelligence I could procure of the nature of the frequent conferences between that person and Gautka combined with the actual movement of Sindia's Army in the direction of Sagur and the almost

daily reports of the arrival of letters from Holkar tended to remove every doubt from my mind of the existence of a correspondence with Holkar and Ameer Khan for purposes decidedly hostile to the British Government and under this impression I deemed it to be my duty to submit to His Excellency's notice my opinion of the views and intentions of Sindiah's Government

I take this occasion to apprise you for His Excellency's information that this Army has been increased by an additional park of 27 new brass ordnance from Auzem

Letter No 8—The memorandum is important inasmuch as it throws light on the British attitude towards the Sindhia and reveals a lack of faith and dishonesty of the British in their relations with one of their allies

*Translation of a memorandum of points unadjusted by
Mr Webb in conformity to the Treaty*

With respect to Dholepore Barea and Rajakherr let payment be made of the Revenue for the last year (1804) from the date of the conclusion of the Treaty of Peace and also for the year (1805) having settled the amount of the revenue of the Muhauls let it be paid to me for the next three years

2 Although it appears by the accounts that I have pecuniary claims on the Grikawar State they have not yet been adjusted Let them be adjusted and ratified as it is not proper that the adjustment of lacs of rupees should be suspended

3 Let the amount of the Revenues collected from Shree Gonda and other districts and from the Taluka of Poyagurh and Dahood previously to the restoration of them to me after the conclusion of the Treaty of Peace be paid to me

4 Great loss has been sustained in the Mehauls in the Deccan in consequence of the disturbances excited by the Bheels or other turbulent people As the stipulations of the Treaty prohibit my employment of Sebunder Corps for the purpose of composing these disturbances let the British Government undertake the protection of these lands from such disturbance or allow me to entertain Sebundies to enable me to settle the Mehauls If this is not done I shall continue to be subjected to some loss

5 Jaggeers to the amount of two lacs of rupees having been granted to persons in my service Sunnuds were accordingly prepared in their favour for Jaggeers in Hindostan Possession however of many of these Mehauls having not yet been given to such persons let possession of them be given to the Jaggeerdars agreeably to the Sunnuds

6 Sunnuds for a Jagheer of 15 lacs of rupees having been prepared in favour of certain officers in my service payment of the money was accordingly agreed to nevertheless the weekly discharge of the pensions is neglected This is improper If therefore weekly payments should be made to me with regularity it will be satisfactory to me and conformable to the existing engagements

7 His Excellency the Governor General informed me that a rupture having taken place with Holkar His Excellency General Lake had advanced against him with a considerable Army and that the Hon'ble Major General Wellesley was on his march with a large force from Poona towards this quarter and called upon me, to send my troops to co-operate with

His Excellency General Lake, conformably to the Treaty of Alliance, stating at the same time that the allied troops should proceed to occupy Holkar's territory. Accordingly I dispatched my forces under the Command of Baboojee Sindhia and Suddashee Rao to join Colonel Monson, and with respect to the occupation of Holkar's Territory, my officers act in conformity to the directions of Colonel Murray. Although it had been originally determined that His Excellency General Lake should advance from the side of Hindostan and General Wellesley from Poona, this system of operation was not carried into effect but was altogether suspended, without any communication whatever being made to me on the subject. His Excellency General Lake retired to Cawnpore and the Hon'ble Major-General Wellesley directed his march from Poona to Carnatic. These measures appearing to Holkar to be favourable to his views, he acquired new courage and audacity. As I had dispatched an Army under the Command of Baboojee Sindhia and Sadashiv Rao Mahadeo to join Colonel Monson and Jean Baptiste had plundered Shuhamnut Khan a servant of Holkar, Holkar in revenge laid waste to the Mehals situated in Malwa, Baroda, etc., and erecting Batteries against Bhelsa carried on the siege with vigor for the space of two months when the Thunadar being extremely distressed for the means of paying the troops, the place fell into the hands of Holkar.

Holkar invested Mundoosura for the space of two months, during which time he laid waste the country, and plundering the village, occasioned me a loss of crores of rupees.

It had been proper had the British Government redressed the grievance, since the company is bound by the Treaties of friendship and defensive alliance to undertake the protection of my territory, but this redress was not afforded. I, therefore, reported (to Mr Webbe) through Etul Mahadeo, that Holkar was suffered to plunder my Mehals to my loss of crores of rupees without any protection being afforded to them by the British Government, that, therefore, I proposed to prepare a force for the purpose of obtaining reparation and exert any endeavours for the protection of the Mehals, but that my Government was extremely embarrassed from want of money, and that under these circumstances, I requested that 25 lacs of rupees might be advanced to me either as a gratuity or on loan. That I would then immediately commence my march for the purpose of obtaining redress (Mr Webbe) however, did not consent to this proposal.

Let His Excellency, therefore, be pleased to state his wishes upon this subject that I may act accordingly.

8 The lands situated to the Southward of Jyepore, Jodepore and Gohud are applicable as Surinjamce to the payment of my troops and the Ninth Article of the Treaty stipulates that they shall not be granted away to any Rajas or other persons. Notwithstanding this, however, the District of Gwalior with its Fort which is situated to the southward of Gohud and is applicable as Surinjamce to the payment of my troops, has been given to the Jats.

9 It is stipulated in the Treaty of Alliance that the British Government will maintain and defend my territories equally with its own territory, but no such protection has been afforded. Although Colonel Murray was stationed with eight Battalions at Ujjain, Holkar was suffered to plunder Mundoosura to the amount of crores of rupees and to level it with the dust. Meer Khan also attacked and established himself in Bhelsa, without any attempt, on the part of Colonel Murray to resist that measure.

10 I have made repeated representations to Mr Webbe on the subject of the above nine articles but he has treated them all with equal contempt All this neglect and inattention therefore must have proceeded either from Mr Webbe's own authority or from that of His Excellency the Most Noble the Governor General

You will ascertain these points correctly and return me a detailed answer

True Translation

Letter No 9—It is an important letter throwing light on the attitude of Dowlat Rao Sindhlia towards Jeswant Rao and the Jat Raja of Bharatpur Dowlat Rao's intended march to Bharatpur and offer of mediation are disliked by Jenkins who suspects these proceedings

The letter is indistinct in some places and portions of it are missing

FROM—R JENKINS RESIDENT WITH DOWLAT RAO SINDIA

TO—N B EDMONSTON SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

Camp the 23rd March 1805

I have already had the honour of submitting for the notice of His Excellency the Most Noble the Governor General a regular statement of the proceedings of this Government together with my opinion of the views and intentions which have appeared to regulate the conduct of Dowlat Rao Sindia Since the date (indistinct) involved in a serious discussion (indistinct) the result has been that the ladies of the Maharaja's family and a great part of the heavy baggage of the Camp had to be actually separated from the Army for the purpose of being conveyed to a place of safety and it had been determined that Dowlat Rao Sindia himself with all his force should proceed by rapid marches in the neighbourhood of Bharatpur Having now received a distinct communication from Dowlat Rao Sindia of his plans (indistinct) my conferences with (indistinct) which will make His Excellency fully acquainted with the state of affairs of this Court

According to a previous intimation from the Durbar the Sicca Nawabs came to my tents on the evening of the 21st instant He proceeded to describe that the Government of Dowlat Rao Sindia has received with sorrow and regret the continued length of war between Jeshwant Rao Holkar and the British Government and the great effects of blood consequent upon so long a contest that with the view of putting a stop to the calamities of War and of restoring peace between the British Government and Jeshwant Rao Holkar His Highness had determined to proceed directly to Bhurt pore for the purpose of offering his mediation to accomplish so desirable an object that the purport of his visit therefore was to signify to me the Maharaja's request that I would write to the different officers in command of British detachments in the neighbourhood of Gwalior etc In order to advertise them of the specific intentions with which Dowlat Rao Sindia was marching in that direction and to prevent molestation from any of our troops which might be stationed at Ghanta in the route of his intended march

I replied that I was entirely unacquainted with the arrangements adopted by His Excellency the Commander in Chief for the protection of the countries to which the Maharaja's message alluded but that it was impossible for me to comply with the Maharaja's request as the officers who might be stationed in the command of British troops received their orders from General Lake and were by no means under my authority I

then adverted to His Excellency's orders and asked Annah whether Dowlat Rao Sindia could reconcile his late movements and the plan which he had then communicated with the tenor of that letter, he replied that the Maharaja intended to write an answer which would satisfy the mind of the Governor-General upon all points, in the meantime the Maharaja considers me to be the Representative of the British Government in which capacity it was incumbent for me to consult with His Highness the mutual advantage of both States and to renew the ties of amity and alliance that the Maharaja was sincerely anxious to maintain his relations with the British Government, that his intention of proceeding to Bhurtpore was intimately connected with that desire. He then repeated the Maharaja's request.

I said that His Excellency's letter contained the terms upon which the British Government could remain at peace with this state and that it would afford the greatest affection to His Excellency's mind to be compelled to adopt any measures but those of the most friendly nature towards D R Sindia. I then reminded Annah of that part of His Excellency's letter which contains the expression "when I shall have been satisfied by Mr Jenkins on these points, no cause of dissension will exist between the allied states." I said I was much grieved I had not been able to satisfy His Excellency's mind upon any point mentioned in His Excellency's letter and that the Maharaja best knew how far his intended proceedings would be calculated to satisfy the Governor-General of his desire to preserve peace. With respect to the Maharaja's proposal of mediating between the British Government and Jeswant Rao Holkar, I reminded that as long as this state continued in alliance with the British power the utmost attention would be paid to its interest as well as to those of all our allies, but that the British Government required or admitted the arbitration of no state whatever. To this remark the Sicca Navees replied that the Maharaja had received repeated solicitations from Jeswant Rao Holkar and Raja Ranjeet Singh to mediate between them and the British Government and that if I could not altogether comply with Dowlat Rao Sindia's request it would be sufficient to apprise General Lake of the intention of this Government and he desired that I would prepare a letter which the Maharaja would transmit. I desired Annah to inform the Maharaja that I should of course communicate the substance of his intention to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief as well as the Most Noble the Governor-General and as it was rather late in the evening I requested that Annah would visit me on the following day when I would enter more fully with him into several points which it would be proper for me to explain on this occasion.

The Sicca Navees accordingly visited me yesterday evening when I thought it necessary to commence a full discussion of His Excellency's letter to Dowlat Rao Sindia relating to which I had received no distinct communication from the Durbar. I first however asked Annah whether Dowlat Rao persisted in the resolution of proceeding by rapid marches to Bhurtpore as the separation of His Highness's family seemed entirely coincide with what I had heard on that subject. Annah denied that the Maharaja had separated his family from the Army for any purpose of marching rapidly to any quarter, on the contrary he said the whole of the baggage continued with the army and that it had now been resolved that the Army should march in the usual manner. The Sicca Navees entered into a long digression respecting the conduct of this Government under the present Minister whose former intentions he avowed had been decidedly hostile and that until lately all the remonstrances of the old servants of this Government had been of no effect that now however he had become sensible of the folly of such conduct and desired nothing more than that the two states should continue united in the closest terms of amity and alliances.

Conceiving this to be a favourable opportunity of explaining myself with respect to Serj Rao Gautka I remarked that it gave me infinite pleasure to understand that such was the Minister's present dispositions. I said that His Excellency the Governor General was disposed notwithstanding the late unhappy proceedings to maintain with this Government the closest ties of amity and of alliance, that it was in the power of Dowlat Rao Sindia to (indistinct) that confidence which unfortunately had been interrupted, that His Highness would act in the manner in which His Excellency's letter had described. In that letter I continued His Excellency desired no concession which was not in the Maharaja's power to perform consistently with the (indistinct) regard to his and to the principles of the alliance, that it was not the Governor General's wish to hurt the feelings of Dowlat Rao Sindia, that His Excellency would be particularly pleased to witness the (indistinct) of his Government to a sense of its own interests and to the (indistinct) of its faith as a proof of the liberal intentions of His Excellency. I was authorized to renew the ties of amity and alliance and Colonel Close must be on his way from Nagpur to join this Camp.

* * * *

He then informed me that intelligence had reached them of Colonel Close's arrival at Bhartpore and he enquired whether I had heard from that Officer. I replied in the negative but recommended that the Maharaja should (indistinct) to meet Colonel Close, according to his previous proposal. Annah said that their intelligence might not be exactly correct but that as soon as I might have received a letter on the subject an officer of rank would be sent to conduct him to camp. I again adverted to the plan which he had (indistinct) to me on the preceding day and which I said would render very difficult for Colonel Close to join the Army. What ever might be the future determination of Dowlat Rao Sindia I continued it would be particularly pleasing to His Excellency the Governor General that nothing should be done without the advice of Colonel Close who if the Maharaja did not proceed to the northward would soon be enabled to join and that I was convinced the communications of that officer would be particularly acceptable to the Maharaja and render His Highness fully sensible of the propriety of my advice, but that His Highness must be aware that his present intentions were entirely at variance with the tenor of the Governor General's letter and that I earnestly intreated the Maharaja to proceed with utmost deliberations as that letter contained an express declaration of His Excellency's determination in the event of His Highness's perseverance in disregarding the engagements at the same time that it carried the most liberal and generous intimation of His Excellency's intentions towards this Government should His Highness resolve to act according to the obligations of his faith and to the manifest bias of his interest.

Annah said that he would state faithfully to the Maharaja the substance of my remarks and that it was the sincere desire of His Highness and of the whole court to preserve the relations of friendship and alliance with the British Government. Upon taking leave the Sicca Navees enquired whether I had prepared a letter for the Commander in Chief. I replied that I wished His Highness in the first instance to be informed of the nature of the present conference and I trusted that he would not persevere in his resolution of adopting a measure so inconsistent with the one which he had stated prevail in the mind of His Highness and his Minister to preserve the relation of peace with the British Government. The Sicca Navees then took his leave.

At night Serj Rao Gautka came to return my visit to the 13th instant and presents suitable to his rank and connection with Dowlat Rao Sindia, were distributed to the Minister and suite.

I have the honour to acquaint you for the information of His Excellency the Governor-General that Dowlat Rao Sindia has this day made a march of about 8 miles in the direction of Sulbulpore, by which route I understand, it is his intention to proceed towards Bhurtpore

Letter No. 10.—It is an important letter that explains the motives of the British and the Sindhia at this juncture of affairs

FROM—R JENKINS, RESIDENT WITH DOWLAT RAO SINDIA,
TO—COLONEL CLOSE, RESIDENT AT POONA

Camp, the 3rd April 1805

I have the honour to transmit to you for your information the enclosed copy of my dispatch of this day's date to Mr Secretary Edmonstone

Enclosure to above.

TO—N B EDMONSTONE, FORT WILLIAM

Sir,

The tenor of my late dispatches to your address and to that of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief will have apprized His Lordship of the nature of the preparations in this Camp Understand it to be the intention of Dowlat Rao Sindia to proceed to cross the Chumbul with all his horse and the Pindaries, while the whole of the Bazars, etc, of the Army were to remain under the protection of Ambajee Inglia in this quarter I requested permission to wait upon the Maharaja with the view of endeavouring to dissuade His Highness if not from his intended march to the Chumbul, at least from proceeding beyond that river, until the arrival of Colonel Close I accordingly proceeded to the tent of Dowlat Rao Sindia on the evening of the 1st instant

After exchanging the usual compliments of civility I was requested to retire to a separate place with the Minister Annah, Sicca Navees and Bappoo Cheetnaveese The Sicca Navees then informed that a letter has been prepared by His Highness Dowlat Rao Sindia to the address of His Excellency the Governor-General but that His Highness desired its contents to be explained to me in the first instance for my approval The letter to His Excellency's address, which I have now the honour to enclose was then read to me and I was requested to suggest whatever alterations might appear to be proper

I did not think it necessary to state any objections but I told that minister that I was perfectly satisfied with the general tenor of the letter as I was convinced would likewise His Excellency the Governor-General provided that the future proceedings of this Government were confined to the professions which it contained I then addressed myself more (indistinct) to Serj Rao Ghautka by saying that object of my present visit was intimately connected with the points referred to in the letter of His Excellency the Governor-General and that my anxiety on the subject had been much increased by the determination which I understood to have been

adopted by His Highness of proceeding to cross the Chumbul I said that I had already submitted through the Sicea Navees my sentiments upon the proceedings of this Government and that although I could not approve their tendency I desired the minister to be assured that I was very ready to consult with him upon the line of conduct which would most conduce to the mutual friendship and advantage of both states

The Minister replied that it was his desire in common with the whole court to act in such a manner as might be most consistent with the relations of friendship and alliance which had so long been established that there was no ground whatever for the anxiety which I had expressed upon the subject of the intended march to the Chumbul that the vicinity of the position which Sindia would occupy to Bhurtpore was entirely calculated for the object of endeavouring by his interposition to mediate peace between the British Government and Jeswant Rao Holkar He then requested me to write a letter to His Excellency the Right Honorable Lord Lake while the Maharaja would also address Jeswant Rao Holkar in order to put a stop for the present to the hostile operations of both parties that those letters should be given respectively to two Vakeels the one of whom should proceed from me with the letter of Dowlat Rao Sindia to the Camp of Holkar and the other with my letter on the part of the Maharaja to the British Camp

I told the minister that I could by no means comply with such a request as my situation of Resident at this Court neither gave me authority to send an agent to Jeswant Rao Holkar nor allowed me to presume to direct the proceedings of the Commander in Chief that my situation required me to consult on the interests of the British Government as connected with those of His Highness Dowlat Rao Sindia and that without express authority from His Excellency the Governor General I could assume no further powers that I had before stated my opinion respecting the offered mediation of this Government and I repeated that His Excellency the Commander in Chief alone was entrusted with the charge of prosecuting the war against Holkar and of eventually concluding peace with that Chieftain, and I endeavoured to impress upon the Minister that any engagement which might be contracted with the enemy would be particularly directed to the interests of this state so long as it remained in alliance with the British Government The Minister did not press the point further and I took occasion to refer to the expression in His Highness's letter respecting the punishment of the plunderers and I requested to know in what manner His Highness proposed to satisfy the Governor General respecting the restoration of the captured property The Minister replied that the total value at which the plundered effects might be estimated should be deducted from the demands of this state against the British Government as the property could not in any way be collected and that with respect to the punishment of the Pindaries I well knew that it was not at present in the Maharaja's power but that the only object of keeping them with the Army was to prevent the plunder of their territories which was in some measure checked during their continuance with the Army The Maharaja would however take the first opportunity of punishing the outrage which they had committed

I expressed my satisfaction on this settlement which I conceived would entirely satisfy His Excellency upon the point of the letter but I asked the minister in what manner I should satisfy the Governor General upon the other important object of His Excellency's anxiety viz the conform-
ance of this Government Serjy Rao Ghautka requested that I would not be under any anxiety upon that point for that the Maharaja merely intended by his march to the Chumbul to mediate a peace after which he would return to settle his country which the present want of finance would not

permit He said that if I would make any arrangement for the relief of the distresses of Dowlat Rao Sindia's Government, the Maharaja would act in every respect according to the wishes of the British Government

I replied that I had long since requested the instructions of Colonel Close upon the subject of the pensions but that the continued march of the army in this direction, while it impeded our communication by letter, necessarily delayed the arrival of Colonel Close in Camp, that if Dowlat Rao Sindia would resolve to act according to his engagements, the Governor-General was willing to renew the offers of removing the distresses of Dowlat Rao Sindia by pecuniary aid and that Colonel Close had full authority to relieve those distresses in such an event, but that this hope would be frustrated by the rapidity of the movements of the Army to the northward, which would not only delay but might entirely prevent Colonel Close from joining this Camp I said that I had already urged His Highness the propriety of waiting for Colonel Close upon whose arrival I was convinced that any arrangement would be concluded and which could tend to the advantage of friendship and union with the British Government

The Minister then said that he would repeat what I had represented to Dowlat Rao Sindia, and that His Highness would so far comply with my wishes and we returned to the Durbar when Dowlat Rao Sindia confirmed the minister's assent I repeated my acknowledgements to His Highness and after some general conversation I took my leave

The Maharaja having expressed his intention of introducing to me Ambajee Inglija whose arrival in Camp will have been known to His Excellency, I thought it my duty as far as could consist with my object of avoiding disagreeable discussions to decline meeting Ambajee Without therefore expressing any particular objection to the Maharaja's wishes, I merely requested that they might for the present be postponed, and Ambajee Inglija accordingly was not at the Durbar

I shall still endeavour to dissuade Dowlat Rao Sindia from proceeding to Chumbul, and as it is probable his anxiety to hasten for march in the direction is combined with the fear of being excluded from the benefit of the negotiations which may be concluded with the enemy, and at the same time with a desire of obtaining a sum of money from Raja Ranjeet Singh, I shall neglect no opportunity of impressing upon the minds of Dowlat Rao Sindia and his Ministers in the first place the groundlessness of such an apprehension Although I have received no instructions for such a measure I shall likewise think myself authorized to pay the third instalment of the pensions, and as some time must necessarily elapse before the arrival of Colonel Close, I shall deem it incumbent upon me to enter into the negotiations prescribed to that officer, if by those means I may be enabled to effect a favourable change in the counsels of this Court

I take this opportunity of acknowledging the receipt of your dispatch of the not given ultimo

I have the honour to be,
etc etc

R JENKINS,

Acting Resident at D R S.

CAMP

The 3rd April 1805

Letter No 11 —It is an important letter elucidating the points of dispute between the Sindhis and the British Government, and refusing some of the charges of the former against the want of faith on the part of the latter. It throws light on the condition of affairs during the war with the Holkar and Sindhis's attitude towards the Holkar.

FROM—N B EDMONSTON, SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT
TO—DOWLAT RAO SINDHIA

Fort William the 4th April 1805

I have had the honour to receive your Highness's letter containing a detailed statement of the representation which your Highness is pleased to make of the transactions of your Highness's Durbar from the period of the commencement of the war with Jeswant Rao Holkar until the date of that letter *viz* that received the 18th of February.

Your Highness's letter was delivered by Bhagwant Rao your Vakeel to whom it was dispatched by Hircarralis from your Highness's Camp and your Vakeel agreeably to your directions proceeded from Benare to Calcutta for the express purpose of delivering your letter. This dilatory mode of conveying your Highness's letter prevented its arrival at Calcutta until four months after the date which it bears. It is a subject of surprize and concern that your Highness should not have adopted the most expeditious mode of conveying to me a letter involving such important considerations. The mode of conveyance which your Highness adopted appears to be inconsistent with a desire to receiving my early reply to the several points which you have been pleased to state. A conscious sense of the justice and equity of the statements and demands contained in your Highness's letter would probably have been manifested by a more direct and expeditious communication of your Highness's sentiments.

Your Highness has been pleased to state your conviction that the late Mr Webbe neglected to report to me an account of all the transactions at your Highness's Court and that he never made any communication to me of your reiterated proposals counsel or advice. I assure your Highness that Mr Webbe regularly communicated to me all the transactions at your Highness's Court stating to me the substance of all the arguments observations and propositions of your Highness and your Ministers during the various conferences between Mr Webbe your Highness and your Ministers on subject connected with the state of public affairs. Mr Webbe at the same time reported to me all the replies which he returned to the statements and propositions of your Highness and your Ministers. These replies however your Highness has entirely omitted in the narrative which your letter contains of the transactions and negotiations at your Highness's Court. The inaccuracy fallacy and injustice of the statements contained in your Highness's letters are peculiarly remarkable in this extraordinary renewal of your claim to the districts of Gohud and Gwalior. Your Highness has stated that claim not only without any reference to the repeated discussions of that question between your Highness your Ministers and Major Malcolm but after that question had been completely and finally adjusted by formal act of your Highness's Government and by your own personal acceptation in public Durbar of the list of Treaties confirmed by the 9th article of the Treaty of Peace. At a conference held on the 20th May 1804 between your Highness's Chief Minister the late Bappoo Wittut and other principal officers of your Government and the British Resident Mr Webbe accompanied by Major Malcolm Bappoo Wittut declared in the most solemn manner on the

part of your Highness, that the claim of Gohud and Gwalior had been entirely abandoned and the British Resident having expressed a desire to be enable to report to me, the final adjustment of that question Bappoo Wittul authorized the Resident in the most unequivocal manner to assure me, that the claim had been completely relinquished by your Highness, and Bappoo Wittul having reported to your Highness, the declaration which he had made to the British Resident in your Highness's name, your Highness not only verbally assented to that declaration, but ratified it in the most public formal and solemn manner, by receiving from the hands of the British Resident in your public Durbar, the list of Treaties confirmed by the operation of the 9th Article of the Treaty of Peace, amongst which treaties is the engagement concluded by the British Government with the Rajah of Gohud. A transaction so public and formal must be considered to possess all the force and obligation of the most solemn Treaty, and inseparable as that is from the due execution of the 9th Article of the Treaty of Peace, to revive the question relative to the districts of Gohud and Gwalior would invalidate the Treaty of Peace, and impair the obligation of every stipulation which it contains

Under these circumstances it becomes my duty to require that your Highness should now distinctly confirm by a written instrument the declaration made to the British Resident in your Highness's name, relative to your claim to the possession of Gohud and Gwalior, and that you should distinctly declare that your Highness considers your acceptance of the list of engagements delivered into your hands by the British Resident on the 20th of May 1804 to constitute a formal recognition of those engagements. I request that your Highness's reply to this requisition may be immediately communicated to His Excellency Lord Lake at the Headquarters of the British Army in Hindostan, and that you will be pleased under a written instrument transmitted to Lord Lake to declare in plain terms, whether your Highness now proposes to dispute the validity of any of the Treaties which you have already solemnly recognized, and particularly whether you now propose to dispute the validity of the Treaty between the British Government and the Rana of Gohud

Your Highness has signified that you had taken several opportunities of sending for Mr Webbe and of personally explaining to him, in the most impressive manner the hostile nature of Holkar's views and the propriety and expediency of frustrating the mischievous effects of Holkar's projects, that the evil had not yet increased to such a magnitude that it might not be overcome by common exertion, and now that the British forces under the command of His Excellency General Lake had arrived near Jaipore, it was highly desirable that your whole army should be assembled for the purpose of co-operating in the extermination of the enemy, by which means that object might be speedily accomplished to the satisfaction of both states, but that your Government had sustained heavy losses and had experienced the most severe pecuniary embarrassments, and that to enable your Highness to collect an Army, money was indispensably necessary, that without money, it was impossible to assemble an army or to prosecute War. That as under the perfect union and identity of interests subsisting between the two states, the loss and injury sustained by one, must be considered to be the loss and injury of both. If in consideration of the embarrassed state of your Highness's finance the Honourable Company's Government would in the actual crisis of affairs grant you pecuniary assistance, to the extent which might be requisite to prosecute the War, such would be conformable to the dictates of union and would therefore not be misapplied, that if however there should be any hesitation about affording you such pecuniary aid you had requested that it

might be given to you on loan without interest and the amount be afterwards deducted from the annual sum of twenty lacs and fifty thousand rupees which includes the revenues of Pergunnahs Dholpore Barree and others that you were to receive from the Honourable Company

Your Highness will recollect that by the terms of the Defensive alliance your Highness is bound to employ your utmost exertions in conjunction with the British power in the prosecution of joint war. No obligation however is imposed upon the British power to afford to your Highness pecuniary aid for that purpose. The British Government is therefore entitled to expect from your Highness that degree of assistance in the prosecution of the War which the state of your Government may enable you to afford but the grant of pecuniary aid to your Highness is entirely optional on the part of the British Government. It is unnecessary to examine whether your Highness was really prevented by the embarrassed condition of your affairs from affording any aid in the prosecution of the war against Holkar. If the resources of your Highness's Government were exhausted to such a degree as to be inadequate to the supply of the ordinary expenses of the state, it was not reasonable to expect that the British Government should provide from its own funds for so enormous a deficiency in your Highness's resources or in other words, that the charges of the troops in your Highness's service to be employed in the prosecution of the War should be borne by the Company. Such however appears to have been your Highness's expectation. I must assert that your Highness possessed no right founded either upon the stipulation of any Treaty or upon any principle of justice to warrant an expectation that the British Government should replace at its own expense all the loss which your Highness had sustained in the war which you had waged against the British power. Your Highness will recollect the discussions on the subject of pecuniary aid which ensued after the Resident had received my instructions upon that subject. On that occasion your Highness's Minister submitted to the Resident's consideration four plans for the co-operation of your Highness's troops with those of the British Government. First that your Highness should take the field in person with an army of 25 000 men with a proportion of Infantry and Artillery the total expense of which was computed at 25 lacs of rupees per mensem. Second that your Highness's Minister Bappoo Withal should proceed with a smaller force the expense of which was computed at fifteen lacs of rupees per mensem. Third that the contingent of troops which your Highness is engaged to furnish in the event of joint war by the terms of the defensive alliance and the expense of which was estimated at ten or twelve lacs of rupees per mensem should be employed under the command of another officer and fourth, that a small body of your Highness's Troops actually in the province of Malwa should join and co-operate the British detachment under the command of Colonel Murray.

Your Highness's Minister intimated to the Resident that your Highness was prepared to carry into effect any one of these plans of co-operation which the Resident might approve but at the same time distinctly stated to the Resident your Highness's expectation that the whole charge of whatever forces your Highness might bring into the field should be borne by the Company.

Your Highness cannot possibly consider such an expectation to be reasonable nor can your Highness justly complain of the British Government for declining to afford pecuniary aid to the extent of subsidizing your Highness's contingent of troops which by Treaty you are bound to furnish at your own charge.

Your Highness appears to have considered yourself to be absolutely invested with a right to pecuniary aid under the plea that the sum of twenty lacs and fifty thousand rupees per annum was payable under the

Treaty to your Highness, or to your Government. This sum must be supposed to consist of the amount of the stipends assigned to certain chieftains connected with your Highness's Government, by the 7th Article of the Treaty of Peace and of the nett Revenue collected by the British Officer since the termination of the War from the districts of Dholepore, Barree, etc.

It is my duty to point out the invalidity of your Highness's claim to the former of those sums. By the express terms of the Treaty, the faith of the British Government is pledged for the payment of the stipends to the amount of seventeen lacs, including Jagheers not to your Highness, nor on account of your Highness's Government but to the persons respectively to whom those stipends are assigned. It is impossible therefore without a violation of the Treaty of Peace and of the Public faith pledged to those Chieftains and other persons of rank, to admit your Highness's Claim to the payment of the amount of those stipends, as an available resource for supplying the expense of your Highness's Government.

I could not therefore have consented to grant to your Highness pecuniary aid on the security of the stipends, the amount of which the British Government would have been compelled to discharge, exclusively of the sums which might be advanced for the service of your Highness's Government. I shall have occasion to advert to this subject again in a subsequent part of this letter.

I admit and have never denied your Highness's claim to the nett revenue of Dholepore, Barree and Rajakerra. The sum however due on that account at the period of time to which your Highness's letter refers, must have been inconsiderable. I shall advert to this subject also in a more detailed manner in another part of this letter.

It is evident from your Highness's own statement, that the amount of pecuniary aid which you considered to be sufficient to enable you to fulfil the obligation of your engagements, was very considerable, and that your Highness did not possess on any ground, whatever, a claim upon the British Government to a sum of money in any degree proportionate to the extent of your expectation. The question of granting or withholding such pecuniary aid was exclusively a question of expediency with reference to the interests of the British Government. If therefore I had refused to grant that aid no complaint on the part of your Highness would have been justified. Your Highness possessed no right by treaty to demand such aid from the British Government and any such aid if afforded could merely be considered as an act of favour and kindness, but not as a concession of right. Under the alleged extent of your Highness's difficulties and distresses, if I had declined to aid you with pecuniary funds, your Highness might in that case have been exempted from the imputation of an intentional failure in the duties of the alliance, but you would not therefore have been entitled to claim pecuniary aid as a matter of right from the British Government.

The British Resident however under my express authority repeatedly offered to assist the exigencies of your Highness's Government to a certain extent, provided any satisfactory assurance were afforded of the attainment of the object of such pecuniary aid in the due prosecution of war against the enemy.

Your Highness has thought proper to comprize in your letter a detailed narrative of the proceedings of Bappoojee Sinlia and Sadashiv Rao, according to the reports conveyed to you by your Highness's servants. It is unnecessary to investigate the accuracy of every part of that detail, since your Highness admits the most material part of the case, the open defection of those Chieftains and their public junction with the enemy. Your

Highness ascribes their defection to the want of resources for the payment of their troops and asserts that their junction with the enemy was involuntary and the unavoidable consequence of the circumstances in which they were placed. The defect of pecuniary resources might perhaps be urged in justification of the inactivity of the force under the command of those officers in the prosecution of the common cause, but the actual junction of that force with the enemy's army and the activity and zeal manifested by those officers in the enemy's cause must be ascribed to other motives and cannot be justified by their alleged want of means for the payment of their troops. This sentiment is confirmed by the subsequent conduct of those persons who have continued to be among the most zealous and active partizans of Jeswant Rao Holkar. The observations which have been stated on the general subject of affording to your Highness pecuniary aid to enable your armies to co-operate with the British troops are equally applicable to Bappoojee Sindia's alleged demands of pecuniary aid from His Excellency the Commander in Chief and from Colonel Monson of which demands however your Highness's letter has conveyed to me the first intimation.

It cannot possibly be maintained that the British Government was engaged to supply Bappoojee Sindia and Sadasiv Rao with funds for the payment of their troops and your Highness evidently means by the narrative of the proceeding of those officers merely to justify their conduct in joining the enemy. Your Highness can scarcely expect me to assent to a perverted principle of public faith which would sanction the most flagrant treachery and desertion of allies and dependants in every case of pecuniary difficulty or distress.

I shall now proceed to reply separately to the several articles stated in your Highness's letter.

The First Article relates to your Highness's alleged claim to the districts of Gohud and Gwalior.

I have adverted in a preceding part of this letter to the impropriety of your Highness's renewal of a claim which has been renounced by your Highness in the most formal and solemn manner, in presence of the late Mr. Webbe and of Major Malcolm, and I have deemed it necessary to request your Highness's direct confirmation of your own act. After the ample discussions upon the subject of Gohud and Gwalior between Major Malcolm and your Highness's ministers and after your Highness's solemn and public renunciation of the claim to those districts confirmed by your formal and public acknowledgment of the validity of the Treaty subsisting between the company and the Rana of Gohud I cannot consent to receive from your Highness any application on the subject of those districts resting on the ground of your alleged right to the possession of them. I deem it necessary however to explain to your Highness the fallacy of the statement upon that subject contained in your Highness's letter.

You have stated that after the conclusion of the two treaties His Excellency General Lake gave the countries of Gohud and Gwalior together with the fort of the latter to the people of the Rana of Gohud. That the countries of Gohud and Gwalior have for a long period of time been annexed to your Highness's territory. That at the time of the conclusion of the peace your Highness delivered to the Honble Major General Wellesley a statement under your own seal and signature of all the countries and forts in Hindostan which you had ceded, together with a memorandum of their names and annual value. That in that statement however the names of the countries of Gohud and Gwalior with the fort of the latter were not inserted. That if your Highness had ceded those

countries, their names also would unquestionably have appeared in that statement, and that therefore the delivery of that territory and fort to the people of the Rana of Gohud and their occupation of them was in direct violation of the Treaty of Peace

The question respecting Gohud and Gwalior has no connection whatever with the schedule of cessions annexed to the Treaty of Peace

Those districts, which formerly belonged to the family of the Rana of Gohud, were assigned to that Chieftain by an engagement contracted by the British Government with the Raja of Gohud before the conclusion of the Treaty of Peace and that engagement was confirmed by the operation of the 9th Article of the Treaty of Peace, which stipulates that certain treaties having been made by the British Government with Rajas and others heretofore feudatories of the Maharaja Ali Jah Dowlat Rao Sindia, those treaties are to be confirmed, and that the Maharaja renounces all claims upon the persons with whom such treaties have been made and declares them to be independant of His Government and authority

This circumstance has been totally overlooked by your Highness although the question of the eventual alienation of the question of the territory of the Rana of Gohud by the operation of the 9th Article of the Treaty of Peace, was a subject of repeated discussion between the Hon'ble Major General Wellesley and your Vakeels at their conferences previously to the conclusion of the Peace, and although Major General Wellesley distinctly apprized your vakeels in the course of those conferences that the territories of the Rana of Gohud, which always including the Fort and district of Gwalior, might be alienated by the operation of the 9th Article of the Treaty

Your Highness has stated under the 2nd head, that among the seven Rajas named in the copy of the Treaty transmitted to you, Highness by me, the name of the Raja of Jodhpore is inserted which you were not prepared to expect, since the Raja of Jodhpore had during the last fifty or sixty years stood in a Tributary relation to your Highness and the greatest exertions were employed to enforce the payment of the Tribute from the country by your Highness's ancestors who fought and bled in the prosecution of that object That it was not proper therefore to connect the name of the Raja of Jodhpore with the other six Rajas, alluded to

The name of the Raja of Jodhpore was inserted in the list of treaties, because previously to the termination of the war, an engagement was concluded with that Chieftain by His Excellency the Commander in Chief and by the 9th Article of the Treaty of Peace all engagements concluded by the British Government with Rajas and others, feudatories of your Highness, are acknowledged and confirmed The Raja of Jodhpore however having subsequently refused to receive that engagement, ratified by the British Government, the alliance became dissolved This circumstance was stated to the late Mr Webbe, but by some error, or by the miscarriage of the letter to Mr Webbe it appears that the name of the Raja of Jodhpore has not been expunged from the list of tributaries The British Government has no intention to interfere in any manner between your Highness and the Raja of Jodhpore The name of the Raja of Jodhpore may therefore be expunged from the list of Treaties, and your Highness will act according to your pleasure towards that Raja

Under the 3rd head, your Highness had adverted to the affair of the 15 lacs of rupees on account of the territory in the Hindostan which your Highness observes according to the provisions of Treaty is payable annually to your Highness and which the British Resident engaged should be paid

in three instalments in the year Your Highness observes that at the period for the payment of each instalment Mr Webbe brings forward various objections of a nature highly improper and unbecoming

I have observed in a former part of this letter that by the express terms of the Treaty the faith of the British Government is pledged for the payment of the pensions not to your Highness nor on account of your Highness's Government but to the persons respectively to whom these pensions are assigned Your Highness however still derives the benefit of those pensions because by the grant of such allowances your Highness's resources are relieved from the burden of providing for the persons to whom the pensions have been granted This question was amply discussed and completely adjusted between your Highness's Minister and Major Malcolm previously to the payment of the first instalment of 5 lacks of rupees and this construction of the stipulation of the Treaty regarding pensions was stated by the late Mr Webbe to your Highness's Minister Bappoo Withal at the conference to which I have adverted in a former part of this letter and was unequivocally admitted by that Minister The pensions also have actually been paid according to that rule

Your Highness's assertion that at the period for the payment of each instalment Mr Webbe brings forward various objections must certainly be founded in error and misinformation agreeably to the order of payment established by the Resident Major Malcolm the first instalment was not payable until the 1st of May 1804 It was paid however by Major Malcolm before the close of the month of February 1804 more than two months before it was due The next instalment was not due until the 1st of September 1804 but it was paid by the late Mr Webbe in the month of July 1804 and the 18th of October therefore the date of your Highness's letter it is a positive fact that no instalment was due

Your Highness cannot fail to observe the danger to which your dignity and honour are exposed by such unfounded charges of violation of Treaty preferred in your name against the British Government I trust that your Highness will exercise your authority in preventing your ministers and servants from such abuse of your name Your Highness will remark that under this head a charge is preferred against the British Government of failure in the payment of the stipulated pensions under the Treaty of Peace at a moment when those pensions had actually been paid in advance The expression in your Highness's letter implies that at the date of that letter the period for the payment of an instalment of the pensions had occurred more than once during Mr Webbe's Residence at your Highness's Court Whereas Mr Webbe did not arrive at Burhanpore until the 12th of May 11 days after the first instalment became due and two months and a half after it had been paid The second instalment was paid by Mr Webbe more than a month before it was due The 3rd instalment was not due until the 1st of January 1805 more than two months and a half after the date of your Highness's letter It appears therefore that during the whole course of Mr Webbe's Residence at your Highness's Court only one instalment was payable by that gentleman and that far from having objected to the payment of it as your Highness's letter states Mr Webbe discharged the amount long before it became due

If your Highness refers to Mr Webbe's objections to the payment of the pensions into your Highness's treasury instead of the stipulated payments to the Pensioners the answer to that point has been already stated

Your Highness proceeds to state under the 4th head that the pergunnahs of Dholepore Barri and Raja Kerra the Jumma of which is five and half lacks of rupees per annum were assigned to your Highness by the provisions of the Treaty That those pergunnahs have not yet been delivered up to

you, nor has the amount of the collections from the date of the treaty been paid to Your Highness, that no intention appeared of delivering them to you, nor in the event of their being retained has Mr Webb's seemed inclination to receive the annual payment of the Jumma, but has clearly evaded that point

Your Highness has never dispatched any person properly authorized to receive charge of these pergunnahs. You cannot therefore consider their continuance in the occupation of the Company to be a just ground of complaint. With reference to the operations of the War against Holkar, the surrender of those pergunnahs at the present time would be extremely inconvenient. At the termination of hostilities they shall be delivered over to the person whom you may appoint or if your Highness should prefer it, the British Government will accept the farm of those pergunnahs at an equitable rent, which shall be regularly paid into your Highness's Treasury. The extraordinary and suspicious occurrences at your Highness's court have retarded the payment on account of the net collections, from those pergunnahs. Orders however have been issued to the British Representative for the amount due on an inspection of accounts, and an arrangement shall be adopted for the regular payment of the collections to your Highness until the pergunnahs shall have been delivered over to your Highness's officer, if you should not ultimately prefer to let them inform to the Company.

Your Highness has stated a claim to the collections from Chamar-koonda, Gaumgaon, Dahood, Pawangur and in Mohauls from the date of the Treaty of Peace until the date of the restitution of those places. Of this claim I had never been apprized until I received your Highness's letter. Whatever collections may have been really from those places within the specified period of time will of course, when ascertained, be paid to your Highness and instructions will be issued directing an investigation of that subject by the Government of Bombay when the accounts shall be adjusted. The British Resident at your Highness's Durbar will be directed to pay the amount into your Highness's Treasury.

In the 6th Article your Highness being prohibited by the terms of the Treaty of Peace from stationing troops in the pergunnah of Chunar, Roonda, Jaumgaon, etc., those pergunnahs had been destroyed by the violence of turbulent people and by the Bheels and that the British Officers refused to employ troops for the suppression of those disturbances.

The British Government is not required by the Treaty of Peace to suppress disturbances in those pergunnahs, or to protect them from the incursions of robbers. With a view however to manifest my disposition to conform to your Highness's wishes, I will direct the British Officers to pay particular attention to the preservation of good order within those districts.

In the 7th Article your Highness adverts to the delay which has occurred in relinquishing the Jagheers in Hindostan, amounting to 2 lacks of rupees per annum which by the Treaty of Peace are to revert to certain of your Highness's chiefs and Relations. On application to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief the Civil Officers of the British Government within whose jurisdiction the Jagheers are situated will be vested with authority to surrender them either to the Grantors or to such persons as shall produce the sunnuds, which were granted to the several Jagheerdars by Major Malcolm, together with a sufficient authority for receiving charge of the Jagheers on the part of the proprietors.

I have not heard that any application has been made to the British Officers on the part of those Jagheerdars. The Jagheerdars will of course be entitled to receive from the British Government whatever has been received by that Government from the Jagheer lands, since the date of the Treaty of Peace.

Your Highness proceeds to state under the 8th head that in the second Treaty it is provided that in consideration of the union established between the two states the Officers of the Company's troops will attend to the protection of your Highness's territories in the same manner as to the protection of the Company's. But that notwithstanding Colonel Murray's coming to Ujjain Jeswant Rao Holkar invested the fort of Mundsnoor during full two months and plundered and laid waste the whole of that district including the town and that in the same manner while Colonel Murray was at Ujjain Meer Khan the Afghan a partizan of Jeswant Rao Holkar invested the fortress of Bhelsa and plundered the whole of that district and the town and Fort which he captured and yet no assistance or protection was afforded by the Colonel.

It is true that the Treaty of defensive alliance contains the stipulation to which your Highness refers and that stipulation is reciprocal. When the permanent security and tranquillity of both states are menaced by the violence and aggression of an external enemy they are to combine their efforts for the destruction of the enemy and each state will have fulfilled the obligation of the defensive alliance in the degree in which its exertions have contributed to that end.

In the prosecution of the War it must be expected that the enemy will occasionally gain opportunities of ravaging the territories of the allied states. The obligations of the defensive alliance being reciprocal the British Government might with equal justice ascribe to your Highness a violation of the Treaty of Defensive alliance because your Highness afforded no protection to the British Territories against the incursions of the enemy.

An appeal to the evidence of facts however will manifest the degree in which either state has fulfilled the obligations of the Defensive alliance. By the valor activity and skill of the British Armies Jeswant Rao Holkar has been deprived of nearly all his territorial possessions a part of which including the capital city of Indore was delivered over to your Highness's Officers. The whole of his force has been repeatedly defeated and nearly destroyed with the loss of all the artillery and he has been deprived of every resource but that which he derives from the feeble and precarious aid of the Raja of Bhurtpore. Has your Highness according to the provisions of Treaty contributed in any degree to these victories? On the contrary has not the conduct of your Highness and of your Officers aided the cause of the enemy against the power by which those victories have been achieved and with which your Highness was pledged to co-operate?

Your Highness has asserted that pecuniary difficulties have prevented your exertions in the prosecution of the war and occasioned the junction of a large portion of your Highness's troops with the enemy's force.

Admitting the justice of this assertion can your Highness justly claim in your own favour the operation of an engagement the obligations of which you admit your inability to fulfil? The British Government however adopted every practicable measure for the protection of your Highness's territory and your capital of Ujjain was actually protected from plunder by the advance of the British Troops at your Highness's desire under the command of Colonel Murray. If your Highness's Officers at Ujjain had joined Colonel Murray with their troops and employed their exertions in supplying the equipments of the British force it might have been practicable to have protected Mundsnoor or Bhelsa. But far from obtaining any aid from your Highness's officers Colonel Murray experienced every species of counteraction. Your Highness cannot have forgotten the misconduct of your officers at Ujjain was a constant subject of remonstrance with the late

Mr Webbe, and your Highness in possession of several memorials on that subject, delivered to you by Mr Webbe The British Resident repeatedly and urgently advised your Highness to proceed to your capital for the purpose of arranging the affairs of your Government of restoring vigor and efficiency to your administration, and of enabling your Highness to fulfil the obligation of the defensive alliance by seizing the possessions of the enemy in Malwa and by co-operating with the British Force and Colonel Murray But your Highness in violation of your repeated promises and of your defensive engagements directed your march towards Hoshangabad In further violation of those engagements your Highness entered into a negotiation with the Raja of Berar, without communicating the nature of it to the British Government and in violation of the Treaty of Peace, your Highness permitted the accredited Vakeel of Jeswant Rao Holkar to remain in your Camp and permitted the person who assumed the general management of your affairs to maintain a constant and clandestine intercourse with him These observations constitute a sufficient reply to the charge of a violation of the Treaty of Defensive alliance which your Highness has adopted against the British Government.

On every occasion when the Resident urged your Highness to proceed to Ujjain for the purpose of restoring the vigor of your Government, of reviving the efficiency of your declining resource and of co-operating with the British troops in the prosecution of the War, your Highness uniformly asserted your inability to proceed for want of funds to pay your troops, and in your Highness's letter you have ascribed your detention at Burhanpore to the same cause Your Highness however states in the same letter that you had been enabled by loans to provide necessaries for your march, and for collecting your troops, that you had accordingly marched from Burhanpore, that you had written to all the officers of your troops to join you from every quarter, and that it was your intention to raise new troops

It is evident therefore that your Highness never intended to comply with the suggestion of the Resident on the subject of your return to Ujjain, for your Highness assigned the deficiency of your Funds as the only cause which prevented your return to Ujjain in conformity to the Resident's advice, and when your Highness, according to your own declaration had obtained Funds, you marched in a different direction, and afforded to the Resident no explanation of the nature of your designs Under these circumstances it is evident that your Highness never entertained the design of proceeding to Ujjain or co-operating with the British troops in the prosecution of the War, with what degree of justice therefore can your Highness complain of the conduct of the British Government in withholding the pecuniary aid which you solicited, until adequate security had been obtained for the due application of those funds to the common cause of the Allies instead of perverting the aid furnished by the allies to the cause of the enemy Your Highness has stated in your letter that it was your determined resolution, after having collected a numerous Army consisting both of old troops and new levies to proceed to chastize the enemy, and your Highness adds how can I be content to see a territory which for a long time has been in my possession and in the conquest of which crores of rupees have been expended and great battles had been fought, in the possession of another, and that it is no difficult matter to wrest the territory from the hands of the enemy I am unable to comprehend your Highness's meaning in the passage above quoted The enemy has not at any state of the war been able to effect the conquest of a single district and whenever the British troops have approached, the enemy has sought his safety in a precipitate flight and although subsequently to the date of your Highness's letter, you have received constant reports of the repeated defeats of the enemy by the British Troops, your Highness has continued to augment your forces and to advance into Hindostan These measures therefore

must be ascribed to objects entirely different from those which your Highness had declared. Before I conclude this letter I deem it necessary to state the leading facts of your Highness's proceedings and those of your Highness's officers under the Treaty of Defensive alliance.

1 After your Highness's repeated and solemn assurances to the Resident of your intention to return to your Capital for the purpose of co-operating with the British Government in the prosecution of the War, your Highness without affording any explanation to the British Resident directed your March towards the territory of Bhopal in positive violation of your personal promise repeatedly made to the British Resident.

2 Notwithstanding the repeated remonstrances of the Resident on the impropriety of permitting the continuance of the Enemy's Vakeel in your Highness's Camp the Vakeel was permitted to remain and to accompany your march and with your Highness's knowledge the person to whose charge you committed the executive administration of your affairs maintained a constant and clandestine intercourse with that Vakeel of the enemy.

3 The Officers of your Highness's Government at Ujjain instead of joining Colonel Murray with any part of the troops stationed at that capital or affording to Colonel Murray any aid whatever in his preparations for the field counteracted the measures of that officer and opposed every degree of difficulty to his exertions in completing the equipments of the Army under his command.

4 Two of your Highness's Military Commanders with the Troops under their command, who were appointed to co-operate with the British forces in Hindostan deserted to the enemy and have acted with the enemy during the whole war.

5 Your Highness has openly justified the conduct of those officers in deserting to the enemy on the plea that the British Commanders refused to advance money for the payment of the troops which your Highness was bound by the Treaty to furnish at your own charge thereby maintaining a principle inconsistent with the spirit of the treaties of peace and of defensive alliance.

6 Your Highness has withdrawn your troops from those districts which had been conquered from the enemy by the British forces and surrendered to your Highness's officers thereby restoring to the enemy a part of his resources of which he had been deprived by the exertions of the British Troops and of which the benefit had been exclusively transferred to your Highness.

7 Your Highness has conducted a secret negotiation with the Raja of Berar without affording to the British Resident any explanation of the nature and object of it thereby violating an express stipulation of the Treaty of Defensive Alliance.

8 Your Highness has violated the Territory of His Highness the Peshwa the Ally of the British Government by invading and plundering the District of Saugor by destroying the city and besieging the fort and by exacting a contribution from that place by force of arms.

9 Notwithstanding your Highness's repeated and most solemn assurances to the British Resident of your intention to proceed to the Capital of your dominions your Highness has marched with a large Army to Narwa on the frontier of the territory of an Ally of the British Government.

10 Your Highness has continued to augment your Army by collecting your troops from all quarters by new levies and by the accession of a numerous train of artillery, although your Highness professed an utter inability to supply funds for the payment of your army, previously to its augmentation, and although the declared object of those measures had ceased to exist. Thereby justifying a suspicion, that your Highness's views were directed rather against the British Government or its allies than against the common enemy.

11 Your Highness has suffered the late flagrant outrages against the person and property of the British Representative and his suite, committed by persons in your Highness's service and within the limits of your Highness's Camp, to pass unnoticed and unatoned, without any endeavours to discover and punish the offenders, and without any effectual measures for recovering the plundered property or any declared intention of repaying the amount without offering a public apology or addressing to me any excuse to palliate an outrage so atrocious against the sacred character of the Representative of the British Government residing at your Highness's Court and without any endeavour to alleviate the personal distress of the British representative, either by contributing to his accommodation or by any acts of kindness or hospitality.

12 Your Highness has revived your claims to the districts of Gohud and Gwalior alienated from your Highness's dominion by the operation of an article of the Treaty of Peace, after a minute and deliberate discussion upon that subject with your Highness's Government and after the most solemn and public renunciation of that claim on the part of your Highness, in presence of the British Resident at your Highness's Court, and after having publicly accepted and confirmed the list of treaties by one of which this alienation was declared.

13 The General conduct of your Highness's Government and specially the augmentation of your Highness's force and your march to Narwa have encouraged the enemy to expect your Highness's support which expectation the enemy has made a public boast, and a general opinion exists in Hindustan and the Deccan that your Highness has resolved to unite your forces with the remains of the enemy's power in a contest against the British Government, your friend and ally.

By all these acts your Highness has manifestly violated not only the obligations of the treaty of defensive alliance, but also of the Treaty of Peace.

Your Highness cannot have forgotten the reduced state of your power at the time when the generosity and clemency of the British Government granted to your Highness, in the last extremity of ruined fortune and in the most abject condition of defeat and distress the liberal peace which you employed, after having vainly endeavoured by a war of aggression in confederacy with another state, to disturb the foundations of the British Empire in India.

Your Highness must be sensible that you were indebted at that moment for your existence as a state, if not for your life exclusively, to the mercy of the British power, which after an uninterrupted and rapid succession of the most glorious victories over your Highness's armies, after the conquest of the greatest part of your former dominions in the hour of triumph, granted to you Terms of Peace, by which a considerable portion of the territories conquered by the British Armies was restored to your dominions and you were again recognized amongst the independent states of India and placed in a condition of dignity and honour under every circumstance calculated to alleviate your feelings to restore the tranquillity of your mind, and to revive the order and efficiency of your Government.

After the conclusion of peace your Highness solicited the protection of the British Power against the manifest designs of Jeswant Rao Holkar, which menaced entire ruin to your state. The British Government consented to afford you that protection and to guarantee your Highness in the secure and tranquil possession of all the right and privileges of an independent power and your Highness now is indebted for your perfect security against Holkar and for the means of protecting your own territory and of occupying that of the enemy to the exertions of the British Armies opposed to Holkar's forces. The return which your Highness has thought proper to make for this unmerited liberality on the part of the British Government is sufficiently explained in the letter and now public in every region of Hindustan and the Deccan where the result of the late war the terms of the peace and your Highness's conduct towards the British Power are fully known and well understood. But the British Government is still disposed to view with indulgence even the recent acts of your Highness's Counsels. I am still disposed to maintain the relations of amity and peace with your Highness and to continue to preserve the provisions of the treaties of peace and defensive alliance provided your Highness shall adopt a course of proceeding, suitable to the spirit of those engagements. In the meanwhile the British Resident is directed to satisfy such parts of your Highness's representations as appear to be proper and compatible with the foundation of the alliance unless your Highness's conduct shall have precluded all hopes of amity and peace.

I most anxiously deprecate such an event being sincerely solicitous not only to maintain peace with your Highness but to fulfil every duty of friendship and to promote the prosperity to your Highness's affairs and the stability of your Government. But if in the event of failure of my efforts to restore the relation of amity your Highness shall be compelled to renew the war every exertion of the British Arms shall again be employed in every quarter of India for the necessary and solitary purpose of imposing a restraint upon the violence treachery and ambition of the state whose perverted counsels have manifested an utter contempt of every obligation of justice, faith, gratitude and honour.

A true copy

N B EDMONSTONE

Secretary to Government

Letter No 12—Representation of Dowlat Rao Sindhia to His Excellency the Governor General explaining the circumstances that forced one of his armies to join Holkar after the defeat of Colonel Monson by the Holkar and pleads for a loan. He complains against the conduct of Mr Webbe, the British Resident at his Court and the indifference of the British Commanders to his requests for aid against the depredations of Ameer Khan and the attack of Holkar on Maudrev. He draws the attention of the Governor General to the violations of other terms of the Treaty lately concluded with him. His complaints reveal lack of faith and sincerity on the part of the British in their dealings with the Sindhia. He also sent a letter of complaint to Major General Wellesley which is printed here. It is in reply to these letters that Edmonstone wrote letter No 11 that precedes this.

FROM—N B EDMONSTONE

TO—M ELPHINSTONE

Fort William dated 8th April 1805

I am directed by His Excellency the Most Noble the Governor General to transmit to you for your information the enclosed translations of a letter from Dowlat Rao Sindia to the Governor General and of one from

that Chieftain to the address of Major General the Honourable Sir Arthur Wellesley, together with translation of a memorandum in the Hindi language of points stated by Sindia not to have been adjusted by Mr Webbe, in conformity to Treaty, which was transmitted in a letter from Dowlat Rao Sindia's Vakeel Bhagwant Rao

2 I am likewise directed to transmit to you, the enclosed copies of a letter addressed by the Governor-General to Dowlat Rao Sindia, in reply to the letter from that Chieftain to His Excellency

3 It is proper, that you should be apprized that the letter to Dowlat Rao Sindia has not yet been prepared in the Persian language, it will however be prepared and transmitted for delivery to that Chieftain with the least practicable delay

FROM—MAHARAJA DOWLAT RAO SINDIA

Received 10th February 1805

May prosperity and happiness attend your Excellency through life

Although the relations of harmony and friendship had long subsisted between the two states, they were confirmed last year by the conclusion of two Treaties through the Honourable Major General Wellesley and Major John Malcolm, but more especially by the second Treaty whereby a defensive alliance having been formed with the Company the interests of the two states were completely identified. In the spirit of that union, the prosperity of the garden of friendship has formed the object of my anxious solicitude, accordingly when I saw and knew the hostile disposition of Jeswant Rao Holkar which has been anticipated by both states after the first conclusion of the Treaty of alliance, I repeatedly communicated to the Honourable Major General Wellesley, to Major John Malcolm, and to Mr Webbe verbally through Baboo Vithal Punt and Moonshee Kavil Nyne, propositions calculated to avert the evil effect of his hostility and I took several opportunities of sending for Mr Webbe and of personally explaining to him in the most impressive manner the hostile nature of Holkar's views, and the propriety and expediency of frustrating the mischievous effects of them, that the evil had not yet increased to such a magnitude that it might not be overcome by common exertion and now, that the British Forces under the command of His Excellency General Lake had arrived near Jaipore, it was highly desirable that my whole army should be assembled for the purpose of co-operating in the extermination of the enemy by which means that object might be speedily accomplished to the satisfaction of both states but that in these times of trouble and confusion my Government had sustained heavy losses and had experienced the most severe pecuniary embarrassment and that to enable me to collect an army, money was indispensibly necessary, that without money it was impossible to assemble an Army or to prosecute war, that as under the perfect union and identity of interests now subsisting between the two states the loss and injury sustained by one must be considered to be the loss and injury of both, if in consideration of the embarrassed state of my finances the Hon'ble Company's Government would in the present crisis of affairs grant in pecuniary assistance to the extent which might be requisite to prosecute the war, such assistance would be conformable to the dictates of that union, and would therefore not be misapplied, that if however there should be any hesitation about affording me such pecuniary aid I requested that it might be given to me on loan without interest, and the amount be afterwards deducted from the annual sum of twenty lacs and fifty thousand rupees (which includes the revenues of Pergunnah Dholepore, Bare and others) that I am to receive from the Hon'ble Company

Mr Webbe replied by saying that he would refer the question to your Excellency's decision and act accordingly. Conceiving that this honest counsel would meet with your Excellency's entire approbation I wrote to the several Commanding Officers to assemble the troops at the different stations, under the supposition that they might be equipped and prepared for service by the time of the receipt of your Excellency's answer to the reference made to your Excellency by Mr Webbe and be ready to march at a moment's notice. I also dispatched orders to Baboojee Sindia and to Sadashiv Rao to proceed with a force consisting of six or seven Battalions of Infantry and of ten thousand horse to join His Excellency General Lake. Accordingly those officers notwithstanding the extreme distress of the troops under their command for their pay in obedience to my orders and in the hope that when they should effect a junction with the British Army His Excellency General Lake in consequence of the union and perfect identity of interests between the two states would not fail to relieve their exigencies set out for Kotah without a moment of delay and when by several successful marches they had arrived near Kotah those officers dispatched letters to His Excellency General Lake informing the General that in obedience to the commands of their master, they had arrived with a body of troops in the vicinity of Kotah, and expected speedily to join the General. The Commander in Chief however replied that their services immediately with him were unnecessary and desired them to join Colonel Monson and Mr Duncan who had advanced with a Detachment to oppose Holkar. They accordingly repaired with their whole force to Colonel Monson and Mr Duncan to whom they represented the distressed state of the troops on account of their pay and requested some allowance to be made for their subsistence assuring the Colonel that if the necessary relief were afforded to the troops they would manifest the utmost zeal and alacrity in the impending contest and continue in perfect obedience to His authority but the Colonel distinctly answered that he could afford them no pecuniary assistance whatever and referred them to General Lake. Having no alternative Baboojee Sindia and Sadashiv Rao wrote to His Excellency General Lake a second time when the General in reply desired them to return to Ujjain. My officers received this communication from His Excellency with surprise and astonishment and not conceiving it proper to retire to Ujjain without my permission reported these circumstances to me. I immediately sent a verbal message to Mr Webbe on the subject who said that I must do as His Excellency General Lake had desired. An interval of upwards of a month having now elapsed without receiving my answer to their reference Baboojee Sindia found that he could no longer sustain his troops without advancing them some money and was absolutely compelled to dispatch Sadashiv Rao with the whole body of horse and infantry in different directions to seek a subsistence, Baboojee Sindia himself remaining with three thousand horse lightly equipped with Colonel Monson in expectation of receiving an answer from me to his letter. About this time an action took place with Jeswant Rao Holkar when Colonel Monson sent a verbal message to Baboojee Sindia desiring Sindia to leave his baggage and Camp followers with the baggage etc. of the British Troops and joining Mr Duncan with his Cavalry advance to oppose Holkar. Colonel Monson with the infantry however remained behind. Baboojee Sindia acted conformably to Colonel Monson's desire and advanced with Mr Duncan with the Cavalry encountered the enemy and notwithstanding the immense superiority of the enemy in number opposed the utmost resistance in their power at length however the combined armies of the two states were repulsed. The loss sustained by Baboojee Sindia in killed and wounded amounted to seven hundred horse and much plunder was also committed. Colonel Monson without bearing any share in the action affected his retreat in the utmost confusion with the Infantry which had occupied a position at the distance

of two coss from the scene of action to Kotah Baboojee Sindia joined Colonel Monson on the road with the remainder of his broken troops. But when Colonel Monson reached Kotah he found himself unable to maintain his ground there and withdrawing his troops accordingly from that place, crossed the Chumbul river in Boats which he found ready for the purpose. Baboojee Sindia at the same time requested that after crossing the river, the Colonel would allow the boats to return for the purpose of conveying his troops across the river that they might be enabled to join him, but Colonel Monson never returned the boats. Baboojee Sindia therefore finding it impracticable to attempt to cross the river without the assistance of the Boats took up a position close to Kotah. Holkar's Army however arriving there invested the place and would have shortly seized the person of Baboojee Sindia had not Rajah Zalim Singh of Kotah sent a message to Baboojee Sindia informing Baboojee that if he did not visit Holkar he would inevitably lose his life, agreeably to whose advice Baboojee Sindia, seeing that he had no alternative, acted by going with Raja Zalim Singh to visit Holkar, and by remaining some days with Holkar under plausible professions of amity. At last however Baboojee Sindia found means to extricate himself from the power of Holkar, when he communicated to me all these circumstances and the address by which he had preserved his life, and succeeded in withdrawing himself from Holkar's party stating at the same time that if I would even now make him some pecuniary advances he would assemble his troops and recall Suddashiv Rao and prepare to give the enemy battle. I accordingly renewed with the utmost degree of earnestness my application to Mr Webbe to furnish some pecuniary aid for the relief of the immediate exigencies of the Army, but that gentleman, although in the course of the discussion of the depending question he once acknowledged to me that your Excellency had authorized him to afford the required pecuniary assistance, took no measure to furnish it to me, and although I contrasted the fatal consequences which must attend his disregard of this question with the advantage and extensive good to be derived from the immediate application of a sum of money to the purpose of preparing the army, my efforts proved wholly unsuccessful. Baboojee Sindia being extremely distressed and embarrassed by the importunities of the troops without the least hope of receiving any pecuniary assistance from me was compelled ostensibly to espouse the cause of Holkar. As all these evils originated in the defect of a supply of money, I with a view to obviate the future aggravation of them and the occurrence of more serious disturbance, came to fixed determination either to march myself from Burhanpore for the purpose of assuming the command of my Army in person, or to dispatch Bhow Gopal Rao with a well appointed force of horse and foot selected partly from the strength of the old military establishment and partly composed of Recruits for the purpose of engaging the enemy. But as it was impracticable either for me to move or to send Bhow Gopal Rao without providing a fund for the support of the troops and other exigence, I sent repeated verbal messages by Baboo Euthal Punt and Moonshee Kawil Nyne to Mr Webbe informing him that all the existing evils were to be ascribed to the pecuniary distress of my Government which was manifest, and that the disturbances were increasing daily, and asking his advice with respect to the propriety either of my marching or of dispatching Bhow Gopal Rao observing at the same time that as the interests of the two states were identified whatever he should recommend for their mutual benefit should be carried into effect, but that in any case he must obtain a supply of money for me, either as a gratuity or on loan without interest, for the purpose of preparing an extensive body of cavalry to be collected from different quarters for the purpose of bringing the enemy to condign punishment since without a very considerable body of cavalry to support the Infantry, it was impracticable to chastize Holkar, that the amount of any pecuniary aid which he may afford should be hereafter deducted from the

annual amount of the fifteen lacks of rupees settled by the Treaty and of the five lacks and half of rupees on account of the Jumma of the Pergunnahs Dholepore Baree and other and from the revenue collected from Dahood Pauagurh Chummarcoonda, Jaumgaum, and others which the Treaty stipulates to be restored to me and that I should receive the revenue thereof annually from the 15th day of Ramzan corresponding with the 30th December 1803

Mr Webbe however treated this representation with the utmost contempt and never consented to afford me the least degree of pecuniary assistance but suffered the question to float in indecision and has been guilty of palpable neglect in the payment of the third instalment of the fifteen lacks of rupees as also in the payment of the revenue collected from the Pergunnahs Dholepore and Baree

My friend I once believed that Mr Webbe faithfully reported to your Excellency an account of all transactions at this Court but now that I perceive Mr Webbe is capable of such inattention and neglect with regard to the adoption of these desirable and necessary measures I am satisfied that he has never made any communication to your Excellency of my reiterated proposals counsel or advice to him in the present important crisis of affairs Your Excellency is distinguished by consummate wisdom and penetration and in correctness of observance of the duties of friendship may challenge the whole world If therefore Mr Webbe had transmitted to you my friend information of that points your Excellency would doubtless have returned a favourable answer to them

Under these circumstances I have dispatched to your Excellency by two Hircarras this friendly letter for the purpose of explaining to your Excellency the points above adverted to and also of communicating other circumstances which have occurred together with my sentiments with reference to time to come

The particulars are as follows —

1st After the conclusion of the two Treaties His Excellency General Lake gave the countries of Gohud and Gwalior together with the Fort of the latter to the people of Bhootpongria

The case however is that the countries of Gohud and Gwalior together with the Fort of Gwalior have for a long period of time been annexed to my territory At the time of the conclusion of the peace I delivered to the Hon ble Major General Wellesley a statement under my own seal and signature of all the country and forts in Hindostan which I had ceded together with a memorandum of their names and annual value In that statement however the names of the countries Gohud and Gwalior with the forts of the latter were not inserted Had I ceded those countries their names also would unquestionably have appeared in that statement The delivery of that territory and fort to the people of Bhootpongria and their occupation of them therefore was in direct violation of the Treaty of Peace

- 2nd Among the seven Rajas named in the copy of the Treaty transmitted to me by your Excellency the name of the Raja of Jodepore is inserted which I was not prepared to expect since the Raja of Jodepore has during the last fifty or sixty years stood in a tributary relation to me and the greatest exertions were employed to enforce the payment of the tribute from that country by my ancestors who fought and bled in the prosecution of that object.

It was not proper therefore to connect the name of the Raja of Jodepore, with the other six Rajas above alluded to

To illustrate the subject further I will ask why the Raja of Jodepore afforded an asylum to the family of Holkar, if he had concluded any engagements with the British Government, and why has he uniformly asserted to me that he had not concluded engagements, or formed an alliance with any state, and that he still continued to stand in the same relation towards me as he has always done. In the course of conversations although both these points were insisted on Mr Webbe has pertinently refused to listen to what has been urged upon them

3rd The affair of the fifteen lacks of rupees on account of the territory in Hindostan, which, according to the provisions of Treaty is payable annually to me and which your Excellency's vakeels engaged should be paid in three instalments in the year at the period for the payment of each instalment Mr Webbe brings forward various objections of a nature highly improper and unbecoming

4th The Pergunnahs of Dholepore Barec and Raja Khara the Jama of which is five and half a lacks of rupees per annum were assigned to me by the provisions of the Treaty. Those pergunnahs have not yet been delivered up to me nor have the amount of the collections from them from the date of the Treaty to the present time been paid to me, no intention appears of delivering them over to me, nor in the event of their being retained by the British Government, does Mr Webbe seem inclined to the annual payment of the Jumma, but clearly evades that point

5th The collections from Chumarkoonda, Jaumgaum, Dahood, Pergunnah etc Mohauls which I am entitled to by Treaty, from the date of the Treaty until that of the restitution of those places, have not yet been paid

6th It is conditioned in the treaty that many troops must not be stationed in the Pergunnahs of Chumarkoondah, Jaumgaum, etc. There must be only Tahsildars, and if any Zamindar shall become refractory or if any person shall excite disturbance within those pergunnahs, the British Troops on the application of the Tahsildars will apply a remedy accordingly, in conformity to the obligations of Treaty. Tahsildars only have been stationed in those Pergunnahs, the whole of which have been destroyed by the violence of turbutory people and by the Bheels, and continue subject to the same depredations. Although the Tahsildars state the circumstances to the Officers commanding the British Troops and also to the Killadar of Ahmednagar, which place is in the vicinity of those Pergunnahs, no one attends to them, nor is any attempt made to suppress these disorders and in consequence the whole of those Pergunnahs are one continued scene of devastation, literally made level with the earth and not a trace of habitation or cultivation remains. If I propose to Mr Webbe that I should dispatch troops from hence to those Pergunnahs he will not consent, nor will he himself apply a remedy

7th The jagheers in Hindostan estimated at 2 lacks of rupees per annum, which by Treaty were to be relinquished by the British Government in favour of certain of my Chiefs and relations, most of those now, at the expiration of ten months, remain unrelinquished, and the Nazims and Aumils refuse to relinquish them on various pretexts

8th In the second Treaty it is provided that in consideration of the union established between the two states, the officers of the Company's troops will attend to the protection of my territories the same manner as to the protection of Company's, but notwithstanding Colonel Murray's

coming to Ujjain Jeswant Rao Holkar invested the Fort of Mundsoor during full two months and plundered and laid waste the whole of that district including the town and in the same manner while Col Murry was at Ujjain Meer Khan the Afghan a partizan of Jeswant Rao Holkar's invested the Fortress of Bilas and plundered the whole of that district and the town and fort which he captured and yet no assistance or protection was afforded by the Colonel. What is to be thought of all these points which are contrary to the Treaties. This however is certain that the circumstances of the quarter are entirely unknown to your Excellency else such a degree of procrastination on the part of the Company in fulfilling the obligations of friendship and the conditions of Treaty were impossible.

As the war with Holkar in consequence of the officers of your Excellency's troops thinking too lightly of it has now run to a great length and my territory has been exposed to the last degree of devastation and as Mr Webb neither fulfils the obligations of Treaty or of friendship nor returns any answers to my plans of operation for the conduct of the war against the enemy and to my propositions all which are conformable to the conditions of Treaty nor adjusts any of these points, therefore a pair of Hircarrahs are sent with this letter to your Excellency for the purpose of communicating all these circumstances as with a view to the arrangement of the disordered state of the affairs of my Government which hitherto in consequence of the union subsisting between the two states I have expected from the Company's officers, and which without my moving appears impracticable nay without that the state of my affairs is daily becoming worse I have in whatever manner I was able by loan raised funds for the provision of necessity for my march and for collecting my troops and on 20th of September marched from my encampment at Burhanpore. I have also written to all the officers of my troops to join me from every quarter and it is my intention to raise new troops. The Friendship and union subsisting between us has induced me to write to your Excellency all circumstances past present and to come.

Where friendship has been established by Treaties and engagements between Princes and Chiefs of high Rank and power it is incumbent on both parties to observe it on all occasions and they consider the injuries and losses of friends and allies to be their own strength and power. My continuance during the so long a period of time in the vicinity of Burhanpore has been owing entirely to my want of funds and to my expectation founded on the union of the two states of aid in all my affairs on the part of your Excellency. As Mr Webb who resides with me on the part of your Excellency practices delay and evasion in every point and avoids the advance of money in the form of pecuniary aid or a loan or on account of that which is clearly and justly due by the conditions of Treaty I have deemed it necessary to communicate all circumstances to your Excellency. My Army having reached the banks of the Nerbudda by successive marches is beginning to cross. I shall now remain in expectation of an answer. Your Excellency is endowed with great wisdom and foresight and is unequalled in the virtues of fulfilling the obligations of engagements and of friendship. I therefore request your Excellency to take into your deliberate consideration all that I have written and adopt such measures as may most speedily both terminate the contest with Jeswant Rao Holkar and fulfil the obligations of the Treaties subsisting between us and strengthen in the most perfect degree and perpetuate the foundations of union and alliance between the two states. Let your Excellency further be pleased to consider where is the advantage of suffering that which has been taken from friends to fall into the hands of enemies. Undoubtedly your Excellency's provident wisdom and correct understanding will never appear (approve?) such a thing since the power and strength of one friend

Letter No 13—Owing to the remonstrances of Jenkins reinforced by the sentiments expressed by the Governor General in his letter to Dowlat Rao Sindhia, the latter gave up his design of visiting Bharatpur. But he deputed his Prime Minister Sarji Rao Ghalgay to go there at the head of an army ostensibly to bring about peace between Jeswant Rao and Raja of Bharatpore on the one hand and the British on the other

FROM—R JENKINS RESIDENT WITH DOWLAT RAO SINDIA

TO—N B EDMONSTON SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

Camp

9th April 1805

In my dispatch of the 7th instant I had the honour to apprise you for the information of His Excellency the Most Noble the Governor General that Serji Rao Ghautka with a large body of Pindaries and a considerable part of the horse of Sindia's camp had marched that morning in the direction of Bhurtpore. Previously to this departure Annah Sica Naveca came to visit me on the part of the minister. He said that in compliance with my wishes Dowlat Rao Sindia had consented to halt in this position and had abandoned his intention of marching to the neighbourhood of Bhurtpore that the minister was confident of my adherence to my promise of paying one kind of the pensions and of my continuing to conduct the affairs of both states with every attention to the subsisting alliance, that the Maharajah had already signified to me the object with which His Highness had proposed himself to proceed to Bhurtpore and that the minister was now sent with the same view of consulting with His Excellency the Commander in Chief and Jeswant Rao Holkar the best mode of re-establishing Peace

I replied that I had already stated my sentiments so fully upon that subject as to render it needless for me to enter into a repetition of my objections and that His Excellency the Right Hon ble the Commander in Chief was alone competent to decide upon the measure adopted by Serji Rao Ghautka. The Sica Naveca continued to repeat that the mission of Serji Rao Ghautka was of a nature entirely calculated to maintain the relations of peace and friendship with the British Government and that as Dowlat Rao Sindia himself remained with me I need be under no anxiety whatever as to the object of his deputation. I thought it unnecessary to make any further remarks and Annah then took his leave

As I conceived it to be my duty to demand from Dowlat Rao Sindia a personal explanation of the movement of Serji Rao Ghautka I requested permission to wait upon His Highness for that purpose and yesterday evening I visited Dowlat Rao Sindia at his tents

I immediately proceeded to the object of my visit and requested Dowlat Rao Sindia to afford for the satisfaction of His Excellency the Governor General an explanation of purposes for which Serji Rao Ghautka had proceeded to Bhurtpore. His Highness replied in the terms of the minister's message to me above described and requested me to inform His Excellency that nothing would ever induce him to forego the benefits of his alliance with the British Government. His Highness then desired that I would address His Excellency the Right Hon ble Lord Lake

Letter No 14 —It is an important document explaining the diplomatic and political relations subsisting between the Company and the Sindhia Lord Lake is advised to refrain from acts of hostility unless the Sindhia in confederacy with the Holkar and Ameer Khan starts the offensive. In case Dowlat Rao refuses to release the British Resident from his Court what course should be adopted is also envisaged. The line of action suggested is one of moderation aimed at the dissolution of the confederacy between the Sindhia and Holkar, rather than of precipitating a war by a course of conduct lacking in forbearance. It is a valuable piece of diplomatic correspondence that clearly illustrates the principles of restraint and moderation which always characterized British diplomacy at critical junctures.

FROM—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL IN COUNCIL

TO—LORD LAKE COMMANDER IN CHIEF

Fort William 25th June 1805

The Governor General in Council has been apprized by Mr Mercer's letter of the 4th and 5th instant to the Secretary to Government in the Secret Department of the course of measures adopted by Your Excellency for effecting the liberation of Mr Jenkins from the camp of Dowlat Rao Sindia.

2. The Governor General in Council has the honour to state to Your Excellency his entire approbation of the measures adopted by Your Excellency on this occasion and of the tenor of your address to Dowlat Rao Sindia of the not given instant demanding the release of Mr Jenkins within the limited period of days.

3. In the actual condition of affairs it appears to the Governor General in Council to be necessary to determine the course of measures to be pursued with respect to Dowlat Rao Sindia, under such events as can now be foreseen on reasonably suppressed (?). This determination will necessarily involve a reply to Your Lordship's reference on the subject of the measures to be adopted in the event of Dowlat Rao Sindia's refusal to comply with your ultimate requisition for the release of Mr Jenkins.

4. The instructions which have been occasionally issued for regulation of Your Excellency's conduct with respect to Dowlat Rao Sindia have necessarily varied according to the information which was received of the views and proceedings of that Chieftain but those instructions have resulted from the same uniform principles of policy.

5. The general principles upon which the Governor General's instructions have been founded were—

1st —To avoid the renewal of hostilities with Dowlat Rao Sindia excepting only under the occurrence of such acts of overt hostilities on the part of Dowlat Rao Sindia involving the honour and security of the Government and possessions as must necessarily place us in a state of war with that Chieftain.

2nd —To maintain the relation of amity and peace with Dowlat Rao Sindia according to the provisions of the treaty of Serj Anjangaon without demanding from Dowlat Rao Sindia or granting to him any concessions beyond the limits prescribed by that engagement.

6 The operation of our general principles, however, was necessarily rendered in some degree subordinate to the obligations of obtaining from Dowlat Rao Sindia a satisfactory attainment for the outrages committed by his servants against the person of the British Resident on the 27th December 1804 and 26th of January 1805 Dowlat Rao Sindia having complied with the demand of attainment in a degree which appeared to the Governor-General in Council to be satisfactory it became unnecessary to regulate the conduct of the Governor-General in Council towards him by any reference to the outrages committed by the Chieftain's servants against the British Resident

7 Exclusively of Dowlat Rao Sindia's refusing the required attainment the cases which were considered as constituting acts which would justify and require on the part of Your Excellency the measure of an immediate attack upon that Chieftain's forces were —

- 1st. His proceeding with his Army to Bharatpore according to his declared intention or in any manner passing the line of demarcation prescribed by the Treaty of Peace
- 2nd Dowlat Rao Sindia placing his Army in a position evidently menacing to the British Government or its allies
- 3rd Dowlat Rao Sindia's receiving Jeswant Rao Holkar or Ameer Khan into his camp and under such circumstances either continuing in his actual position or retiring

8 The Governor-General's orders to Mr Jenkins of the 26th of April authorising him on the ground of Dowlat Rao Sindia's compliance with the demand of attainment to proceed to the adjustment of all depending questions with the Chieftain on the basis of the Treaty of Peace although issued subsequently to the Governor-General's instructions to Your Excellency to attack the forces of Dowlat Rao Sindia in the cases above described were not of a nature to supersede those instructions and the same observation is applicable to the Governor-General's subsequent instructions of the 4th of May describing the circumstances under which the British Government would be disposed to admit the Agency of Dowlat Rao Sindia in effecting an accommodation with Jeswant Rao Holkar since those several orders and instructions referred exclusively to a state of circumstances which would not be considered to involve the indispensable necessity of prosecuting hostilities against the power of Dowlat Rao Sindia although the conduct of that Chieftain had amply justified an unqualified declaration of war

9 The cases above stated under the 2nd and 3rd heads may be considered to have occurred, Dowlat Rao Sindia having placed his Army in position evidently menacing to the British Government and its allies and having subsequently received both Jeswant Rao Holkar and Ameer Khan and retired with those Chieftains and Your Excellency acted in strict conformity to the intentions of this Government in advancing with the troops under Your Excellency's personal command towards the position occupied by Sindia near the frontier of our ally the Rana of Gohud If Sindia had awaited in that position the approach of Your Excellency's army and had refused to comply with the demands which Your Excellency was authorized to make, an immediate attack upon the united forces of that Chieftain and Holkar would have been indispensably necessary for the vindication of the honour and rights of the British Government, or if circumstances had admitted of Your Excellency's pursuit of the retreating armies with a prospect of forcing them to action Your Excellency's demands having been rejected that measure would have been highly expedient and in strict conformity to the intentions of the Governor-General in Council In the

event of an attack the British Government would have been placed in a condition of actual war with Dowlat Rao Sindia and the result of the action would have determined the necessity of prosecuting further measures of hostility against him

10 The immediate operations of Your Excellency's Army however, being precluded by the precipitation of Dowlat Rao Sindia's retreat and by the state of the season it became a subject of deliberation while the conduct of Dowlat Rao Sindia was such as to render necessary on ground of honour or security the prosecution of hostilities against Dowlat Rao Sindia whose military operations were immediately practicable in other words whether under all the circumstances of the case it was necessary to consider the British Government to be in a state of actual war with Dowlat Rao Sindia. The circumstances of precipitation alarm and disgrace under which the united forces of Dowlat Rao Sindia and Jeswant Rao Holkar retreated from their position at Subhulgarh the distressed and inefficient condition of their armies and the deficiency of their resources appeared to the Governor General in Council to preclude that necessity on any grounds connected with the honour or security of the British Government

11 In conformity therefore to the general principles stated in the 5th paragraph of this dispatch the Governor General in Council resolved to suspend the prosecution of hostilities against the possessions of Dowlat Rao Sindia unless that Chief proceed to such acts of direct hostility as would necessarily place us in a state of war with him

12 At the same time under the circumstances if Dowlat Rao Sindia's conduct in uniting his forces with those of the enemy and of the state of restraint and distress of the British Residency at His Highness's Court Your Excellency's resolution to demand from Dowlat Rao Sindia the release of Mr Jenkins and his safe conduct with the gentleman of the Residency and the escort in a British station was perfectly proper and the terms on which Your Excellency conveyed that demand are entirely approved by the Governor General in Council neither the measure of withdrawing the British Residency nor the tenor of Your Excellency's letter to Dowlat Rao Sindia constitutes a declaration of war with that Chieftain and Your Excellency has very properly avoided a direct menace of war even in the event of Dowlat Rao Sindia's ultimately refusing to comply with Your Excellency's demand for the release of the British Residency. The course of proceeding therefore which Your Excellency has judiciously pursued leaves the British Government at liberty in the actual situation of affairs to adopt either a pacification or hostile system of policy with respect to Dowlat Rao Sindia

13 After the maturest deliberation upon the measures which it was most expedient to pursue the present condition of affairs the Governor General in Council has finally resolved to adhere to the general principles which have hitherto regulated our conduct towards Dowlat Rao Sindia as described in the () paragraph of this dispatch and the Governor General in Council now proceeds to state to Your Excellency the application of those principles to every case which it is at present necessary to contemplate

14 Dowlat Rao Sindia may comply with Your Excellency's requisition for the release and safe conduct of Mr Jenkins and the gentlemen of the Residency and the escort and although united with Holkar may refrain from any positive act of hostility against the troops or possessions of the British Government or its allies

15 In this case according to the principles already stated the Governor General in Council is resolved to fulfil all the obligations of the treaty of peace with Dowlat Rao Sindia and accordingly when Your Excellency

shall have received intelligence of the safe arrival of Mr Jenkins and the gentlemen and escort of the Residency in safety at a British Station, Your Excellency will be pleased to signify this resolution to Dowlat Rao Sindia. Your Excellency at the same time intimate to Dowlat Rao Sindia that Your Excellency is disposed to receive at the headquarters of the British Army, any person duly authorized and empowered to negotiate on the part of His Highness and to adjust with the person so authorised and empowered all questions depending between the British Government and Dowlat Rao Sindia on the basis of the Treaty of Peace. Your Excellency will further signify to Dowlat Rao Sindia that should His Highness prefer the measures of a convention of disputes, Your Excellency will dispatch a person of rank to Ramporah or to any other convenient station which His Highness may indicate for the purpose of meeting an agent on the part of His Highness and of adjusting with that agent all pending questions on the basis of the Treaty of Peace, or finally that under proper assurances from Dowlat Rao Sindia of his disposition to receive a British Resident at his Court in a manner suitable to the dignity of his station, Your Excellency will dispatch to His Highness's camp an officer of rank who in that event will be vested with the power and authority of that station by credentials from the British Government and will assume the function of British Resident and reside in that capacity at His Highness's Camp.

16 The Governor-General's instructions to Mr Jenkins of the 2nd of April combined with the Governor-General's letter to Dowlat Rao Sindia of the 4th of that month appear to the Governor-General in Council to preclude the necessity of any additional instructions relative to the adjustment of any questions depending between the British Government and Dowlat Rao Sindia.

17 Your Excellency will be pleased to consider it to be the fundamental principle of any negotiation for the adjustment of depending questions on the basis of the Treaty of Peace neither to demand from Dowlat Rao Sindia nor to concede to that Chieftain any point whatever beyond the limits of the provisions of that Treaty.

18 If Dowlat Rao Sindia should express a desire to renew the provisions of the defensive alliance Your Excellency will refer for instructions on that subject to the authority of the Governor-General in Council, at the same time Your Excellency will be pleased to signify to Dowlat Rao Sindia that the British Government is disposed to renew the defensive engagements which his conduct had necessarily suspended and even to assign to him the portion of the territories conquered from Jeswant Rao Holkar which the British Government originally engaged to assign to him, provided the conduct of His Highness shall be consistent with the obligations of the defensive alliance.

19 Your Excellency will, of course, understand it to be the wish of the Governor-General in Council that Lieutenant-Colonel Malcolm should be the officer dispatched either to meet the agent of Dowlat Rao Sindia or to proceed to that Chieftain's Court in the capacity of Resident.

20 Secondly—Dowlat Rao Sindia may refuse to comply with His Excellency's demand for the release of Mr Jenkins abstaining, however, from the commission of any indistinct or the imposition of any restraint upon him and merely detaining in the manner in which Mr Jenkins hitherto has been detained or in the expectation of inducing the British Government to acquiesce in Mr Jenkin's continuance or to suspend coercive measures. Sindia may manifest towards the British Residency an unusual degree of respect and attention and may enable the Residency to maintain a due degree of respectability and credit within the limits of his camp.

21 The Governor General in Council concurs entirely in opinion with Your Excellency that Mr Jenkins must not be suffered to continue in the camp of Dowlat Rao Sindia under any circumstances whatever. The British Government therefore must not be induced by any change of conduct on the part of Dowlat Rao Sindia towards the British Residency to withdraw the demand for the release of Mr Jenkins with the Gentlemen and escort of the Residency. In the case supposed however the Governor General in Council will deem it sufficient in the first instance to adopt a measure of retaliation by publicly prohibiting Dowlat Rao Sindia's vakeel at Calcutta from quitting that city and from communicating this prohibition to Dowlat Rao Sindia and by promulgating it in the most public manner at every court in India. If this measure should not induce Dowlat Rao Sindia to release the British Residency the Governor General in Council deem it necessary to declare the suspension of the payments of the stipends and of the revenue of Dholepore Baree and Raja Kherra payable under the Treaty of Peace. If this measure also after a sufficient latitude of trial should prove ineffectual it will be expedient in the judgment of the Governor General in Council to proceed to the coercive measures of resuming all the Jagheers granted by the Treaty of Peace of seizing Dowlat Rao Sindia's possessions in Ahmednagar and of attacking Asseerghur and Burhanpore and Sindia's several forts near the frontier of Guzerat declaring at the same time to Sindia that those possessions shall be restored when Mr Jenkins with the Gentlemen and escort of the Residency shall have been released in safety at a British Station.

22 In conformity to these resolutions when Your Excellency shall receive information of the detention of Mr Jenkins in the Camp of Dowlat Rao Sindia beyond the period of time limited by Your Excellency's letter to Dowlat Rao Sindia of the fourth instant Your Excellency will be pleased to communicate by letter to Dowlat Rao Sindia the measure of retaliation which the British Government has determined to adopt in respect to his vakeel at Calcutta intimating at the same time the intended formal promulgating of that measure at every Court in India. It will be proper also to signify to Dowlat Rao Sindia the resolution of the British Government to proceed to the suspension of the stipends and revenue payable under the Treaty of Peace if he should continue to detain the British Residency beyond a specified period of time. If at the expiration of that prescribed time, the British Residency shall still be detained Your Excellency will be pleased by a letter to Dowlat Rao Sindia to declare the stipends and the Revenues of Dholepore Baree and Rajakhera to be suspended. If this measure also should prove ineffectual, Your Excellency will be pleased to report that result to the Governor General in Council and to abstain from the adoption of any additional measures until Your Excellency shall have received instructions upon that subject from the Governor General in Council.

23 Dowlat Rao Sindia may not only refuse to comply with Your Excellency's demand for the release of the British Residency but may detain Mr Jenkins in actual confinement or proceed to other acts of violence against his person.

24 In this case the Governor General in Council will probably deem it indispensable necessary to resume the Jagheers to abrogate the pensions and to seize Dholepore Baree and Raja Kherra together with the lands belonging to Dowlat Rao Sindia in the province of Ahmednagar and to authorize the most prompt and vigorous measures of hostility against the possessions of Dowlat Rao Sindia. The Governor General in Council deems it proper however that information should previously be communicated to Government of the nature and extent of the violence offered to the person of Mr Jenkins and that these measures should not be adopted without the express direction of the Governor General in Council.

25. Your Excellency will observe from the tenor of the instructions that notwithstanding the undisputable justice of considering Dowlat Rao Sindia's actual connection with Jeswant Rao Holkar to be a legitimate ground of War with Dowlat Rao Sindia it is not the intention of the Governor-General in Council to render that connection a cause of war with Sindia or even a cause for suspending any of the provisions of the Treaty of Peace and the Governor-General in Council now proceeds to state to Your Excellency some observations calculated to elucidate the grounds of this determination

26. An adherence to all the obligations of the Treaty of Peace, appears to the Governor-General in Council to be necessarily connected with a determination to refrain from the prosecution of war against Dowlat Rao Sindia. The abrogation of any of the provisions of the Treaty without the mutual consent of the contracting parties, constitutes a virtual dissolution of the engagement and the parties consequently revert to the condition in which they relatively stood before the conclusion of the Treaty of Peace. In that event therefore the British Government would be placed in a state of war with Dowlat Rao Sindia although we should refrain from the actual prosecution of military operations against that Chieftain. Your Excellency will observe a distinction between the suspension of some of the provisions of the Treaty of Peace and the absolute abrogation of them. The former measure has been prescribed in the instructions in the event of Mr Jenkin's detention, as a measure preliminary to the actual prosecution of hostilities. The abrogation of them is stated to be a measure exclusively connected with the operations of war

27. The Governor-General in Council deems it indispensably necessary to effect the release of the British Resident and ultimately to proceed to the extremity of War for the purpose of accomplishing that object. Our solicitude to avoid that extremity however, has suggested the expediency of the intermediate measures which have been prescribed with a view to effect the release of the British Residency

28. The Governor-General in Council has stated in the 26th paragraph the grounds on which the abrogation of the provisions of the Treaty of Peace are considered to place the British Government in a state of war with Dowlat Rao Sindia. The measure of declaring the provisions of the Treaty of Peace suspended until Dowlat Rao Sindia should abandon his connection with Holkar and would manifestly involve the necessity of war in the event of Dowlat Rao Sindia's inability or disinclination to comply with that demand. Your Excellency will probably concur in opinion with the Governor-General in Council that the measures of suspending those provisions would be attended with success. In the actual condition of Sindia's affairs he is probably unable to effect his emancipation from the control of Ghautka and of his associate Yeshwant Rao Holkar. Both Holkar and Ghautka are unquestionably desirous of involving Dowlat Rao Sindia in a war with the British Government and their influence in the counsels and their ascendancy in the Government of Dowlat Rao Sindia would enable them to prevent his compliance without demand. The effect therefore of the proposed measure of suspending the provisions of the Treaty of Peace in the manner described, would be to precipitate a war with Dowlat Rao Sindia and consequently to cement the confederacy which it is our object to dissolve

29. It is obvious that the same influence and ascendancy may preclude the release of the British Residency. But the Governor General in Council deems the honour and reputation of the British character in India and

consequently the security of the British Empire to be involved in supporting our demand for the release of the Resident at the hazard of war without reference to the causes which may preclude Dowlat Rao Sindia's compliance with that demand. The Governor General in Council does not consider the junction of Holkar and Sindia unconnected with their joint prosecution of measures of actual war against the British Government or its allies to involve similar considerations of honour and security. The Governor General in Council therefore has not judged it expedient by demanding the expiration of Dowlat Rao Sindia to depend upon his ability as well as his inclination to overcome the ascendancy and influence of the Chieftains who at present control his councils and who are interested in preventing his compliance with the demands of the British Government.

30 For these reasons the Governor General in Council is decidedly of opinion that when the British Residency shall have been released no alternative is left in the British Government but either to adhere to the obligations of the Treaty of Peace or to be prepared for the immediate prosecution of hostilities against Dowlat Rao Sindia.

31 While the British Government shall continue to adhere to the obligations of the Treaty of Peace Dowlat Rao Sindia has an obvious interest in refraining from such a participation in the hostile proceedings of Holkar as must necessarily place him in a state of war with the British power and although Dowlat Rao Sindia may not immediately possess means of emancipating himself from his connection with Holkar he probably has the power of abstaining from a participation in the war.

32 No principles of permanency exist in the present extraordinary combination of the interests of Dowlat Rao Sindia and Jeswant Rao Holkar which has been effected through the agency and influence of Serjee Rao Ghautka. It is not probable that the adherents of Dowlat Rao Sindia will long submit to be the instruments of the wild and profligate designs of Jeswant Rao Holkar and Serjee Rao Ghautka or patiently endure the difficulties and distresses to which they are at present exposed. It may be expected that Dowlat Rao Sindia himself may soon become sensible of the disgrace and degradation of his actual condition and if he should retain any latitude of action may be induced by a just sentiment of pride and indignation to make an effectual effort for his emancipation from the control of those Chieftains who have abused his confidence and resumed his power. The pacific course of policy which the Governor General in Council has now resolved to adopt is calculated to accelerate the dissolution of the connection between Dowlat Rao Sindia and Jeswant Rao Holkar.

33 If Sindia should commence hostilities against the troops or possessions of the British Government either singly or in concert with Jeswant Rao Holkar the British Government will of course be compelled to adopt the most vigorous measures of war against Dowlat Rao Sindia but in the judgment of the Governor General in Council that necessity is not involved in the continuance of Sindia's present connection with Holkar unaccompanied by acts of positive hostility against the British Government or its Allies. In any event however no Military operations should be undertaken against the forces or possessions of Dowlat Rao Sindia without the previous sanction of the Governor General in Council but any actual attack upon the British forces or possessions or those of our allies must of course be repelled with the utmost promptitude and vigour.

34 These are the considerations which have influenced the deliberate resolution of the Governor General in Council to adhere to the obligations of the Treaty of Peace with Dowlat Rao Sindia notwithstanding the

continuance of that Chieftain's connection with Jeswant Rao Holkar, provided Dowlat Rao Sindia shall ultimately surrender the person of Mr. Jenkins with the Gentlemen and escort attached to the Residency and shall refrain from the prosecution of measures of war against the British Government and its allies

35 The Governor-General in Council now deems it proper to state to Your Excellency his sentiments with regard to the practicability of effecting a satisfactory pacification with Jeswant Rao Holkar

36 The Governor-General has already stated to Your Excellency the general principle of a settlement with Jeswant Rao Holkar which the Governor-General in Council would consider to be a sufficient security against the turbulence and ambition of that Chieftain. Adverting, however, to the restless disposition and predatory habits of Holkar, it is not probable that he will be induced to consent to any system of arrangement which shall deprive him of the means of ranging the territories of Hindoostan at the head of a body of plunderers excepting only in the last extremity of reversed fortune. Whatever might be the expediency under other circumstances than those which at present exist of offering to Jeswant Rao Holkar terms of accommodation without previous submission and solicitation on his part, in the present situation of affairs the offer of terms such as Jeswant Rao Holkar might be expected to accept would be manifestly injurious to the reputation and ultimately hazardous to the security of the British Government. It is doubtful however whether the naughtiness, ferocity and turbulence of Holkar's disposition could under any circumstances whatever be reconciled to a condition of dependence and control. It is manifestly inconsistent with that regard to the reputation of the British Government the preservation of which constitutes an essential bulwark of our power, or with the principles of public faith and honour to offer concessions to Holkar and rejection or acceptance of concessions offered under the circumstances of the present movement would equally tend to weaken the foundations of our power. The Governor-General in Council, therefore, does not entertain any immediate expectation of effecting a settlement with Jeswant Rao Holkar. If, however, at any future period of time Jeswant Rao Holkar should manifest a disposition to accede to terms of peace with the British Government, the Governor-General in Council will deem it expedient to take into consideration whatever propositions may be made for that purpose on the part of Holkar and while the conduct of Dowlat Rao Sindia should be such as to enable us to maintain with him the relations of amity and peace on the basis of the Treaty of Serjyangangaon, the Governor-General in Council will consider it to be consistent with those relations to admit of Dowlat Rao Sindia's agency in the settlement of the terms of pacification with Jeswant Rao Holkar. If therefore, under the circumstances described, Dowlat Rao Sindia should convey to Your Excellency any propositions for a settlement with Jeswant Rao Holkar, Your Excellency will be pleased to receive such propositions and to communicate them to the Governor-General in Council for the consideration of Government. Until such propositions shall have been communicated to the Governor-General in Council it is impracticable to determine the specific terms of accommodation with Holkar to which the Governor-General in Council might deem it expedient to accede. The general principle of such a settlement should be to combine with a suitable provision for Jeswant Rao Holkar an arrangement which should deprive him of the means of invading the rights and disturbing the possessions of the British Government and its allies. An accommodation with Jeswant Rao Holkar should also comprise a suitable provision for Cashee Ram Holkar and eventually the assignment of a proportion of the territory of Holkar family to Dowlat Rao Sindia according to the original intention of the British Government in that Chieftain's favour

37 Your Excellency will infer from the general tenor of these instructions that it is not the intention of the Governor General in Council to authorize the further prosecution of Military operations against Holkar beyond the extent necessary for the defence of our possessions and those of our allies against any attempt on the part of Holkar to disturb them. The arrangements prescribed by the instructions of the Governor General in Council of the 17th May supersede the necessity of any further suggestions upon that subject at present.

38 Your Excellency will have observed that Mr Jenkins has deemed it proper to withhold the Governor General's letters to Dowlat Rao Sindia of the 4th of April containing a detailed reply to that Chief's letter of the 18th of October 1804 and of the 23rd April 1805 communicating to Sindia the Governor General's acceptance of the letter of apology for the outrages committed by his servants against the person of the British Representative at His Highness's Court combined with his verbal declarations and those of his Minister as a satisfactory atonement for those outrages. Mr Jenkins has been induced to withhold those letters by considerations that they were respectively prepared under the supposition of a state of circumstances which did not exist when Mr Jenkins received those letters. The same considerations appear to have induced Mr Jenkins to withhold Your Excellency's letter to Dowlat Rao Sindia of the 12th of May. The Governor General in Council does not approve the conduct of Mr Jenkins in suspending the delivery of those letters.

39 The Governor General in Council is specially desirous that Dowlat Rao Sindia should receive the Governor General's reply to His Highness's letter of the 18th of October and the Governor General in Council also deems it of importance that Dowlat Rao Sindia should be apprised of the Governor General's acceptance of the atonement which he offered. The Governor General has therefore directed duplicates of those letters to be transmitted to Your Excellency and the Governor General in Council requests that Your Excellency will be pleased to forward them to the Camp of Dowlat Rao Sindia with a letter from Your Excellency containing an explanation of the causes which prevented the delivery of the originals of those letters.

40 If Mr Jenkins should still be in the Camp of Dowlat Rao Sindia the Governor General in Council is not aware of any objection of his agency in the delivery of the letters notwithstanding the suspension of his functions as the representative of the British Government at Dowlat Rao Sindia's Court since the delivery of the letters may be considered as an official act exclusively referable to a period of time antecedent to the suspension of his functions. In the event supposed therefore Your Excellency will be pleased to issue the necessary instructions to Mr Jenkins for the delivery of the Governor General's letters to Dowlat Rao Sindia.

Letter No 15 — Jenkins informs that Ambajee Ingolia had been released and would most probably succeed as Prime Minister. There is possibility of Sarji Rao Ghatgay quitting the Camp of Sindhia. Jenkins wants to leave the Court since the Sindhia has not conformed to the demands of the Governor-General.

FROM—R JENKINS RESIDENT WITH DOWLAT RAO SINDIA
TO—LORD LAKE COMMANDER IN CHIEF

Camp 27th June 1805

To my last despatch I had the honour to mention the release of Ambajee Ingolia from confinement and the probability of his immediate accession to the office of Prime Minister. That person has actually assumed the

exercise of the functions attached to that capacity and it is expected that Serjy Rao Ghautka will shortly quit Camp to proceed to Deccan

All my exertions have not enabled me to obtain an audience of Dowlat Rao Sindia on the subject of Your Excellency's letter. To my messages I have regularly received for answer that Annah should be sent to me but although this is the last day appointed by Your Excellency, I have not yet received a visit from that Minister and Dowlat Rao Sindia marched yesterday ten miles and today about 14 miles in the direction of Deogarh. The period, therefore, mentioned in Your Excellency's letter having expired, I shall not continue to press further the subject of my dismissal and it will rest with Your Lordship to determine the measures most effectual to be adopted to avenge the repeated violations of the laws of nations and the reiterated insults against the British name and authority which have been sustained in the unprincipled and atrocious acts of this nefarious Government

Letter No 16.—This is an enclosure to the letter from the Secretary to Governor-General to Elphinstone.

The Governor-General in Council writing to Lord Lake, dated 25th July 1805, authorises the latter to start hostilities against the Sindhia in case he refuses to release Mr. Jenkins and the other members of the British Residency.

A copy of the letter that the Governor-General addressed to Sindhia forms an enclosure to this letter and reiterates the determination of the Governor-General to secure the release of Jenkins

The Governor-General in Council has taken into consideration the dispatch of Lieutenant-Colonel Malcolm addressed by Your Excellency's direction to the Secretary to Government under date the 30th ultimo communicating the copy of a letter from the acting Resident at the Court of Dowlat Rao Sindia to Your Excellency's address, dated the 20th ultimo, which contains the acting Resident's report of his communication with Dowlat Rao Sindia on the subject of Your Excellency's requisition for the dismission of the British Residency within a limited number of days

2 The argument by which Dowlat Rao Sindia has endeavoured to justify his evident resolution to avoid compliance with your Excellency's demand for the release of Mr Jenkins, is destitute of any real force and Sindia himself is probably sensible of its fallacy. The Governor General in Council however deems it advisable to deprive Sindia of the advantage of any pretext for the detention of Mr Jenkins by a distinct confirmation of your Excellency's demand under the seal and signature of the Governor General

3 The Governor General has accordingly addressed the enclosed letter to Dowlat Rao Sindia confirming and enforcing your Excellency's demand for the dismission and safe conduct of the British Residency and a copy of that letter is annexed to this dispatch for your Excellency's information

4 Your Excellency will observe, that the letter from the Governor General addressed to Sindia, refers to former letters of the Governor General addressed to that Chief, but not delivered to Sindia by Mr Jenkins, in consequence of the unfavourable state of affairs at Sindia's durbar. It appears to be absolutely necessary that the Governor General's letters should now be delivered to Sindia in order to remove every possible ground of error or misconstruction of the views of the British Government

This point has already been stated to your Excellency in the letter from the Governor General in Council under date 25th June and it appears to be proper to recommend it to your Excellency's particular attention

5 If this requisition should also prove unsuccessful it will be evident that Sindia is either disposed or compelled to hazard the alternative of war. Whatever latitude of action Sindia may possess or may be allowed with regard to this particular point it seems evident from the tenor of the advices received since the dispatch of our instructions to your Excellency of the 25th ultimo that the power of Dowlat Rao Sindia is at present absorbed in that of Jeswant Rao Holkar and that a specified resolution of the connection between those Chieftains cannot reasonably be expected by the exclusive operation of those causes on which the Governor General in Council has been induced to found that expectation. If it be evident that Dowlat Rao Sindia is disposed or compelled to hazard the renewal of war rather than comply with the demand for the dismissal of the Residency, the speedy prosecution of hostilities in the part of the British Government appears to be advisable upon every principle of dignity security and even of economy. Unless the confederates should be induced to suppose that notwithstanding the failure of the present final requisition for the release of the British Residency the British Government still entertained an expectation of accomplishing its release without proceeding to hostilities against Sindia it may reasonably be apprehended that they will ascribe our forbearance to motives incompatible with the dignity of the Government and with the reputation of our power. Such an impression would obviously encourage the confederates in their hostile designs and in either case the confederates would derive from delay additional advantages from the prosecution of them. It cannot however be supposed either that Dowlat Rao Sindia will refuse or evade a compliance with the Governor General's demand without previously resolving to detain Mr Jenkins at the hazard of war or that Sindia can now expect to deceive us by any further subterfuges. Great danger therefore must inevitably be produced by our abstaining from the prosecution of hostilities at the earliest practicable period of time if Sindia should refuse or evade in compliance with the present demand.

6 In conformity to these sentiments the Governor General in Council now authorizes and directs your Excellency to be prepared to commence active operations against the confederated forces as soon as the season will admit and the Governor General in Council requests that your Excellency will transmit with the least practicable delay a plan of operations for the eventual prosecution of hostilities in every quarter of Hindostan and the Deccan.

7 Copies of this dispatch will be transmitted to the Governments of Fort Saint George and Bombay and to the Residents at Poona Hydrabad and Nagpur together with a circular letter from the Chief Secretary of which a copy is annexed for your Excellency's information. Directions will be issued for placing the armies in the Deccan and in Guzerat in a state of readiness to act against the forts and possessions of Dowlat Rao Sindia in those quarters.

8 No act of hostility however against Sindia is to be committed without further instructions from the Governor General but your Lordship will be pleased at whatever time you may deem expedient to make any forward movement of the troops in Hindostan which you may deem advisable either with a view to the protection of our possession or to the attainment of a final settlement of affairs with Sindia and Holkar in the quarter.

To—DOWLAT RAO SINDIA

Written 25th July 1805

Your Highness has been apprized that his Excellency the Right Honourable Lord Lake Commander in Chief of the British Forces, is vested by the Government with full powers on the part of the British Government, to regulate and control all political and Military affairs in Hindostan. Lord Lake has addressed to your Highness several letters desiring the dismissal of Mr Jenkins and the other Gentlemen and escort attached to the Residency from your Highness's Camp, and their safe conduct to a British Station. These requisitions however your Highness has not been pleased to regard with due attention, and I am now informed, by a dispatch from Mr Jenkins that your Highness's ministers under some apparent errors have endeavoured to justify this neglect of the Commander in Chief's requisition, and of the repeated and earnest applications of Mr Jenkins for his dismissal and safe conduct, by referring to a letter in which I informed your Highness that Mr Jenkins was vested with powers to transmit all matters which related to the interests of the two states, and to letters of similar importance addressed to your Highness by Colonel Close.

My notification to your Highness of Mr Jenkins's authority to transact all affairs connected with the interests of both states, was made under circumstances differing entirely from those which suggested the necessity of suspending Mr Jenkins functions, and of requiring his dismissal from your Highness's Court. Having been officially apprized of the powers vested in His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, Your Highness cannot entertain any doubt of Lord Lake's authority to suspend Mr Jenkins's functions, and to demand his dismissal. Independently of these considerations it cannot be unknown to Your Highness, that according to the acknowledged privileges and powers of the accredited ministers of a foreign state the representative of the British Government at your Highness's Court, is entitled to demand his dismissal even without any direct communication to Your Highness of the demand from the Government which he represents and that refusal to comply with that requisition would constitute a violation of those laws and usages which are acknowledged and revered amongst all civilized nations. With a view to remove every immediate release of Mr Jenkins and the other gentlemen and the escort attached to the Residency I deem it expedient to continue by a direct communication Your Highness, the which you have received from Lord Lake, the Commander-in-Chief, and from Mr Jenkins, and to signify to Your Highness my expectation that the space of fourteen days after your receipt of this letter, Your Highness will permit Mr Jenkins the Gentlemen and escort of the Residency to depart from your Camp and will afford them safe conduct to the nearest British Station. Your Highness must admit that the British Government is entitled to withdraw its Representative from Your Highness's Court without any reference to the conduct of Your Highness's Government. Your Highness, therefore, will not persevere in a refusal to comply with this requisition, after so many solemn demands from the British Government.

It is my duty to apprise Your Highness that I will never recede from this demand. It is superfluous to state that after the expiration of the term limited for the dismissal of Mr Jenkins neither His Excellency Lord Lake, the Commander-in-Chief nor I can receive from Your Highness any communication which you may desire to make through Mr Jenkins, nor will Mr Jenkins be authorised to transact any official business with Your Highness or with Your Highness's Ministers. At the same time it is necessary to signify to Your Highness that your responsibility for the safety of Mr Jenkins and of every person attached to the Residency

from injury or insult is not diminished by the suspension of that Gentleman's functions as the Representative of the British Government at Your Highness's Court. I trust however that after your receipt of this letter Your Highness will not persist in detaining Mr Jenkins. Such an act far from tending to the accomplishment of any object connected with the interests of Your Highness is calculated to preclude every advantage to be derived from the preservation of amity and concord between the two States.

Your Highness has already been apprized that after the arrival of Mr Jenkins and the Gentlemen and Escort attached to the Residency under safe conduct at a British Station His Excellency the Commander in Chief will be prepared to receive any confidential agent whom Your Excellency may think proper to dispatch for the purpose of communication on points connected with the welfare and limits of both states, and that at a proper season an officer of rank will be dispatched to Your Highness's Court in the capacity of Representative of the British Government.

I deem it proper to take this opportunity of desiring that Your Highness will consider His Excellency the Commander in Chief Lord Lake to be vested with full powers to conduct all political and Military affairs in Hindoostan on the part of the British Government and that you will deem His Excellency's acts and communications to be as valid as if proceeding immediately from my authority.

I have recently addressed several letters to Your Highness under dates the 4th and 22nd April. The extraordinary and unfavourable state of affairs at Your Highness's Court has of necessity prevented Mr Jenkins from delivering my letters to Your Highness. Those letters however will now be delivered to Your Highness and all error and misconstructions of the intentions of the British Government will henceforth cease. If any part should appear to Your Highness to require explanation you will be pleased to refer to Lord Lake who has public authority to state my sentiments to Your Highness.

My determination is to maintain the late Treaty of Peace without alteration. I trust that Your Highness's disposition will be found to be equally conformable to the Treaty of peace the conditions of which the British Government cannot consent to change in any degree. Your Highness must be satisfied that the alternative of war or peace now rests with Your Highness. No demand has been made upon you nor will any demand be made by the British Government beyond the limits of the Treaty of Peace. But no concession can be granted inconsistent with that engagement. Your Highness I trust is determined on your part to respect the allies and territories of the Company and not only to afford no assistance to our enemies but to co-operate with Lord Lake against them.

True copy

N B EDMONSTONE
Secretary to Government

Letter No. 17—The enclosure to this letter is one in which Jenkins informs Colonel Malcolm the movements of the Holkar and the Sindhia and their future intentions.

FROM—R JENKINS ACTING RESIDENT AT D R S
TO—MAJOR A WAKER RESIDENT AT BARODA

Camp the 7th September 1805

I have the honour to transmit for your information the copy of dispatch of yesterday's date to Colonel Malcolm.

Sindiah marched this day about five miles in a north-westerly direction to Bhoongoan.

TO—LIEUT.-COLONEL MALCOLM

Sir,

I have the honour to acquaint you for the information of His Excellency the Right Hon'ble the Commander-in-Chief, that Dowlat Rao Sindia marched yesterday about 10 miles in the direction of Adjmere, and we are now encamped about 2 coss north-west from Rewaree on the Mahanadee. In this position I understand it to be Sindiah's intention to halt during some days. Ambajee Inglia with two Battalions of Infantry and some Horse is employed in enforcing the payment of the contributions from the small Gwchies in the neighbourhood. The force destined to proceed towards Oudepoor has not yet moved from the vicinity of our last encampment but Sadashee Rao who conducted the expedition, has this day received his dismissal from Dowlat Rao Sindia.

Holkar continues encamped about five Coss on this side of Adjmere, he has been employed during several days in his religious devotions, and in presenting the customary offerings at the shrine of the celebrated saint of that place. It does not appear to be the intention of Holkar to make any immediate movement from the vicinity of Adjmere during the present doubtful relation in which he is placed with regard to Dowlat Rao Sindia but he is using every endeavour to press this Court to a final determination in the line of conduct which it intends to pursue.

CAMP

6th Sept 1805

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient and humble servant

R JENKINS,

Acting Resident at the Court of Dowlat Rao Sindia

Letter No 18.—The letter intimates that the British Resident has been permitted to depart as a result of the influence of Ambajee Inglia who had been it seems reinstated as Prime Minister of the Sindhia

FROM—R JENKINS, ACTING RESIDENT WITH D R S,

TO—COLONEL MALCOLM

Camp, 14th Sep 1805

A considerable change having taken place, under the influence of Ambajee Inglia in the tenor of the counsels by which this court has lately been actuated, Dowlat Rao Sindia has thought proper to evince his favourable disposition by acceding to the demand for the release of the British Residency. Yesterday evening I received the usual presents on the occasion of my dismissal, and I have the honour to acquaint you that I shall commence my march tomorrow morning to the headquarters of the British Army at Muttra.

Letter No 19 —Jenkins informs Colonel Malcolm that he was leaving the Camp of Sindhla on the 16th September and that he had an interview with the Sindhla before he left. The Sindhla was sending Munshi Kamal Nahn with him to discuss matters with the Commander in Chief. He reports that there was desertion in the Holkar's army.

FROM—R JENKINS ACTING RESIDENT WITH D R S
TO—COLONEL MALCOLM

Camp 15th Sep 1805

I have the honour to acquaint you for the information of the Right Honble the Commander in Chief that on account of some delay in the arrangements for the escort by which I am to be accompanied from Camp on the part of D R Sindia I have been compelled to postpone my departure this day but am assured that every thing will be prepared for me to commence my march tomorrow.

According to His Highness's request I waited upon the Maharaja last night and I do myself the pleasure to state for his Lordship's notice the principal heads of this conference after the customary compliments had passed between the Maharaja and myself Ambrjee Ingolia and Annah at His Highness's desire seated themselves near me and the Sicca Nawab commenced the conversation by remarking that on account of the unfavourable appearance which my dismissal would have afforded to the world of his views and intentions towards the British Government the Maharaja had been very reluctant to consent to the adoption of such a measure and His Highness had indulged an expectation that my Government would have been induced to retract the demand and that from the tenor of the late letters however of the Right Honble the Commander in Chief and Colonel Malcolm and from that of Kumul Nynes communication through Gopal Kisan His Highness had perceived that compliance with the repeated requisitions of His Lordship and of the Governor General on that subject was absolutely necessary to remove the doubts which had been excited by my detention and to promote a renewal of that friendly and confidential intercourse which had formerly subsisted between the two states. Guided by these considerations and by the entire devotion of his heart to the friendship of the Honble Company's Government that His Highness had no longer hesitated in complying with the wishes of that Government and by so doing His Highness trusted that every source of doubt and mistrust and every obstacle to the speedy adjustment of all depending points would be now removed that it was His Highness's ardent desire to recover the confidence and good opinion of the British Government and that he expected to find that state in every respect inclined to meet his wishes and to second his efforts for the accomplishment of so desirable an object.

I replied by addressing myself to the Maharaja on a few words that the suspicious measure which His Highness had now adopted afforded the most ample demonstration of that wisdom and pacific spirit upon which the Company's Government had always relied for the re-establishment of an amicable connection with His Highness and that His Highness would find in his intercourse with the British Nation that the prosecution of a just and honourable system of policy on his part would ever secure the most cordial acknowledgement and support from that power and would tend to promote in the most effectual manner His Highness's dearest interests and views.

The Maharaja personally repeated his anxious desire for the speedy adjustment of all points and particularly for the removal of every doubt which might have been excited relative to his views. I said that no cause

of mistrust could longer subsist and His Highness might depend upon the earliest arrangement of every question I requested to know whom His Highness had appointed on his part to negotiate with the Right Hon'ble the Commander in Chief His Highness informed me that Moonshy Kumul Nyne was vested with full powers of negotiation and that he was fully instructed on all points, but that he trusted after my departure from Camp that I would not consider myself to be entirely absolved from the obligation of promoting his interest with the Hon'ble Company I assured His Highness that it had been the invariable desire of the Most Noble Marquis Wellesley, as it was that of the Most Noble the Governor-General a desire which from the period of my accession to the charge of the interests of the two states I had endeavoured to the best of my ability to promote that the bonds of alliance and good understanding should be maintained on the firmest basis of cordiality and confidence, that if my exertions for the welfare of His Highness's Government had been formerly thwarted by self interested and evil minded persons, it had always been my firm belief that the counsels and actions of such persons were in contrariety to His Highness's disposition and feelings, that my personal respect and attachment to His Highness would ever render welfare of his Government an object of the utmost interest to my mind

Gopaul Kishan, who was present at this conference then addressed himself to me, by remarking that he had already stated to me the financial distresses of this Government, and that I was well acquainted with every thing that related to the interests and concerns of the Maharaja, that I had also received the fullest communications relative to the assurances, which under the orders of Kumul Nyne, and with the knowledge of the Right Hon'ble the Commander in Chief, he had been authorized to make to the Maharaja, as well as relative to all his transactions with this Government, and that as the Maharaja in every respect relied upon the friendship of the Honourable Company, Gopaul Kishan trusted that no deviation would take place but the tenor of those assurances, and transactions I replied that the British Government never deviated from the rules of justice and good faith and that His Highness would, I was convinced, implicitly rely in that assurance

The conversation then turned upon the late transactions with Holkar, and the defection of the troops of that Chief This subject Ambajee Inglia requested me particularly to recommend to the attention of the Right Hon'ble the Commander in Chief Besides Bungush and Shahaniut Khan, he informed me, that about 2,000 of the Holkar's best horse had remained at Ajmere, and only waited for money to enter the Maharaja's service To this communication I replied, that Kummul Nyne would of course enter into a discussion of all points with the Right Hon'ble the Commander in Chief, as soon as my departure should be known, and that every arrangement would be adopted that could in any way tend to the mutual advantage of the states Ambajee Inglia then made some allusions respecting Gohud and Gwalior, to which I replied generally, that his Highness might depend upon the most liberal adjustment on the part of the Company's Government of all depending questions To some observations and questions of Annah and Ambajee respecting the peace with Holkar, I returned likewise a general answer, that the object of the British Government in a war with Holkar, was entirely unconnected with any views of conquest or of extended dominion, that the object of the British Government was directed to the preservation of its just rights and those of its allies and that it would embrace with the utmost pleasure, any occasion which might afford a reasonable prospect of concluding a peace with Holkar, consistently with this object and with the general tranquility of India

After paying the personal compliments to His Highness which the

occasion required and repeating my confidence that all depending points would be speedily and satisfactorily adjusted I then took my leave of His Highness

I take this opportunity of acknowledging the receipt of your dispatches of the 1st and 5th September. Your letter of the latter date to Ambajee Inglia was delivered to that person by Gopaul Kishen whom I directed according to the tenor of His Lordship's order to inform Ambajee, that he might consider it as an engagement superseding that which I had given him until I could refer to superior authority

Letter No 20 —The writer intimates that a new treaty covering the treaty of Serjee Anjangaon had been concluded between the British Government and Dowlat Rao Sindhia to the satisfaction of both parties and that Sindhia had ratified it

FROM—N B EDMONSTON SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT
TO—M EDPHINSTON RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

Camp on the river near Monghyr the 17th January 1806

I am directed by the Hon ble the Governor General to inform you that on the 22nd of November a treaty was concluded between the Right Hon ble Lord Lake on the part of the British Government and the Agent of Dowlat Rao Sindia by which all subjects of difference between the two states have been satisfactorily adjusted and that the Governor General has now received from the Right Hon ble Lord Lake Official information of the arrival in His Lordship's camp of a copy of that treaty duly ratified by Dowlat Rao Sindia

2 A copy of the treaty will hereafter be transmitted for your information and for the purpose of being communicated to the Court at which you reside and represent the Governor General who deemed it sufficient to observe that the treaty confirms all the stipulations of the Treaty of Serjee Anjangaon as far as regards the affairs of the Deccan and that the additional stipulations contained in the Treaty of the 22nd of November first refer to points in which the interests of the British Government are exclusively concerned and do not in any manner affect those of the Hon ble Company's allies

Letter No 21 —Mercer reports that the Sindhia had received several letters from the Holkar and Sarjee Rao Ghatgay. The Sindhia apprehends an open rupture with the Holkar while he feels he is unequal to him if a contest occurs between them. A part of the letter is in code figures and cannot be understood

FROM—G MERCER RESIDENT WITH DOWLAT RAO SINDHIA
TO —THE GOVERNOR GENERAL FORT WILLIAM

Camp near Hamirgarh the 4th July 1806

Since I had the honour to address you on the 30th ultimo several letters have been received by Sindia from Jeswant Rao Holkar and Sarjee Rao Ghatka of a purport similar to that mentioned in my former letter. His Highness has I understand evaded giving any specific answer but has expressed himself anxious to know what probable line of conduct may be pursued by the British Government in consequence of Holkar's reception of Ghatka. No communication has however been made to me on this subject

2 There appears every reason to believe that Sindia's late conduct has been principally actuated by the apprehension of coming to an open rupture with Holkar, and under present circumstances from the state of his funds, the inefficiency of his army, and the total want of confidence evinced by his principal servants in himself and his counsels, he has certainly no great reason to consider the result of such a contest as likely to be favourable to him notwithstanding the reduced state of Holkar's Army and resources, which would be more than balanced by the personal character of that Chief.

3 Sindia at the same time appears equally averse to any intimate connection with Holkar, and could only I believe be induced to cultivate his friendship from considering an immediate rupture with him other than unavoidable. Holkar's conduct after he joined Sindia's Army last year at Subbulghur in assuming a commanding influence over the whole of his officers has left in Sindia's mind an impression unfavourable to the revival of such a connection and the conduct of Serjee Rao Ghatka, at that period which highly favoured Holkar's authority might naturally be supposed to strengthen His Highness's resolution against readmitting him to favour under Holkar's auspices.

4 There is so little appearance however of any settled principle of action in the measures of this Durbar, that every mode of reasoning on the future from past transactions must prove uncertain. Sindia's present advisers are men of no weight either from rank or character and seem to confine their views to the endeavour of relieving his difficulties by petty exactions from tributaries, whilst his country, which, with management, might afford ample resources is allowed to be plundered and ruined by his refractory Sirdars. Even in this endeavour they have been very unsuccessful and Sindia has frequently declared his entire disappointment in the hopes he had formed of advantage from his late transactions. This dawning conviction however may not operate towards a change in his measures as he is still flattered by delusive hopes of obtaining money from the Udaipore Chiefs, from the Raja of Jodhpore, and through the mediation of the latter of settling a tribute from the Jaipore Raja. The few remaining men of rank and character connected with the Durbar avoid all interference in the present measures.

Letter No. 22 — Mercer reports that the Sindhia had rejected a proposal of the Holkar and Ghatgay to come to Shahpura to meet the Holkar. He also reports that there is no agreement between the Holkar and Sindhia about their claims to the tribute from Udaipur.

FROM—G MERCER, RESIDENT WITH DOWLAT RAO SINDHIA
TO—THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL, FORT WILLIAM

Camp, the 10th July 1806

Since I had the honour to address you on the 4th instant, Dowlat Rao Sindia has made two marches in the direction of Kotah, from which place his Camp is now about fifty miles to the westward.

2 His Highness had been strongly urged by letters from Jeswant Rao Holkar and Serjy Rao Ghautka to march to Shahporah in the direction of Jaipore for the purpose of meeting Holkar, this proposition my information leads me to believe Sindia has positively rejected, and from his march of yesterday it would appear probable that he had resolved to pursue his original intention mentioned in my letter of the 18th ultimo of proceeding towards Raghoghar country, though his march may still be delayed by the hopes he entertains of realizing some part of the money promised by the Udaipore Chiefs.

3 Raja Man Singh has informed Sindia that he sees but little probability of settling the differences between His Highness and Holkar, upon the terms proposed by Sindia as Holkar had decidedly refused to relinquish his claim to a share of the Udaipore tribute and had declared that matters could only be satisfactorily adjusted by an adherence to the agreement which had been made whilst they were together at Subbulghur of an equal division of countries and of their claims to tribute

4 Jeswant Rao Holkar continued on the 3rd instant encamped near Pokur where his family had joined him from Jodhpore. Some progress had been made towards a settlement of his claim on the Jaipore Raja who had consented to pay to Jeswant Rao three or four lacks of rupees in money and an additional amount in articles of various descriptions upon Holkar's agreeing to deduct the amount of the injury done to the Raja's country from the gross sum of fifteen lacks of rupees

Letter No 23—It encloses a copy of Mercer's letter to the Governor General in which he reports the whereabouts of Sindia and Holkar. Sindia wanted certain arrangements to be made in Bhopal. His negotiations with Ambaji had not induced the latter to assume the Government of Sindia. Holkar was near Pokur and intended to march towards the Sikh country after the rains. Sarji Rao Ghatgay had plundered certain districts of Udaipore and had requested the Sindia to grant him Bhilsa as a Jaldad (permanent property) which the Sindia was unwilling to do

FROM—N B EDMONSTONE

TO—M FLPHINSTONE

Fort William 4th November 1806

With a view to keep you informed of the state of political affairs in Hindoostan I am directed to transmit to you the enclosed copy of a dispatch from the Resident at the Court of Dowlat Rao Sindia under the date the 6th ultimo containing the latest intelligence upon that subject received by the supreme Government

TO—THE HONBLE SIR G H BARLOW BARONET GOVERNOR GENERAL IN COUNCIL FORT WILLIAM

HONBLE SIR

This army has made no movement since I had the honour to address you on the 28th ultimo and it is now understood that Dowlat Rao Sindia will remain upon this ground till after the Dasherah

The negotiations with Ambajee still remain undecided. He had agreed to the payment by instalments of twelve lacks of rupees upon being confirmed in the possession of Nerwar Subbulghur and the Soubudary of the Mewar country. Sindia has demanded the immediate payment of this amount but a mutual distrust of the intentions of each other has hitherto prevented any adjustments. There appears at present but little probability that Ambajee will resume the administration of Sindia's affairs or indeed that any efficient administration will be formed as His Highness seems unwilling to delegate authority to any party whilst he can conduct matters through the agency of his private favourites of whom Deobah Hoozooreah is the person now principally consulted

3 Three Battalions and a party of Horse have been sent forward towards Bhopal from where Mohammed Shah Khan with Meer Khan's brigade had retired towards Seronge. It is Sindia's intention I understand to endeavour to unite the parties of Vizier Mohammed Khan the former Minister of Bhopal and that of Ghous Mohammed Khan the son

of the Nawab of Bhopal, who is himself incapable of management, and to support these two Sirdars in the administration of the affairs of the province under his own influence. It appears improbable, however, from the present state of Sindia's affairs and the prevalent belief that Holkar will speedily march to this quarter, that he will be enabled to carry this arrangement into effect, and it will probably end in the demand of a sum of money from the Pindarah Kareem Khan, for the permission to continue his plunder and control of the province as hitherto.

4 Serjee Rao Ghautka has plundered the town of Belwarah, in the Udaipore province and marched from thence to the southward of Chitore, where he continues to subsist his people by exactions from the neighbouring villages. He has requested of Sindia the Fort and country of Belsah as a Jaidaud which has been refused him with an assurance, however that, he will otherwise be provided for.

5 Jeswant Rao Holkar continued encamped near Pokur on the 26th ultimo and had not then been enabled to carry to any settlement with the Patans of the Hyderabad Risala whose Chiefs have lately made offers to Sindia of entering into his service, and delivering over to him the person of Kondree Rao. These offers have not been accepted but Holkar has declared his suspicions that Serjee Rao Ghatka has been engaged in fomenting these disturbances and in encouraging the Risallah to refuse every accommodation short of the full payment of their arrears.

6 A report prevailed in Camp a few days ago, that Holkar had again sent his family to Jodhpur and had commenced his march towards Kotah, and it was at the same time mentioned in the Durbar with the view of obviating the effects which this intelligence might have in the present state of the army, that it was understood to be his intention to attack the Rao Raja, at the instigation of the Rajah of Jaipore, who had promised his assistance on the ground of the Rao Raja's having formerly been a dependant of the Jaipore State, and its being incumbent on him to have borne a proportion of the contribution levied upon the Raja of Jaipore. It has also for some time past been asserted with more probability, that Holkar had received offers from Raja Sunsaor Chand of Nadaon, of a large sum of money for his assistance against the Nepaul Government and this appears to have given rise to the report mentioned in my address No 37 of the 30th August of Holkar's intention to march after the rains towards the Sikh country.

7 Whilst the state of Holkar's troops and of his resources appears so little calculated to enable him to undertake any distant expedition or to support the consequences of an attack on the Rao Raja the situation of his affairs with Sindia would seem entirely to preclude all likelihood of his having formed such intentions. Although these Chiefs are, I believe, equally averse to an open warfare with each other whereas little could be gained, yet their personal interests are so much at variance, that either would consider an advantage gained by the other as a calamity to himself, and no benefit which Holkar could ever promise himself from the prosecution of such measures as the above, would compensate, I conceive in his own opinion for the advantage which Sindia would derive from the undisturbed control over the countries of both, which he would not fail to exercise during Holkar's absence.

CAMP 8 MILES NORTH-EAST OF RAIGHUR

I have the honour to be,

POLUN.

Sir,

The 6th October 1806

Your most obedient humble servant,

GROEME MERCER,
Resident at Dowlat Rao Sindia.

HOLKAR'S AFFAIRS

Letter No 1—Jenkins reports the whereabouts of the Holkar and his intention of joining the Sikhs and of negotiating for help from Kabul. The strained relations between the Holkar and the Sindhia as also Meer Khan's efforts to effect a reconciliation are referred to.

FROM—R. JENKINS RESIDENT WITH DOWLAT RAO
SINDHIA

TO—THE COLONEL MALCOLM

Camp near Mendapur the 25th August 1805

My private letters will have made you acquainted with Holkar's late movements and with the General State of affairs at this Court since the date of my last Public dispatch. I have the honour to apprise you for the information of the Right Honble the Commander in Chief that Holkar made a further march yesterday about 8 Coss from Rewarree in the direction of Adjmere by which movement there is at present a distance of nearly 20 Coss between the two armies.

Meer Khan has continued in this camp during three or four days for the purpose of establishing a reconciliation and of persuading Dowlat Rao Sindia to march with Holkar. But I am credibly informed that the Maharaja under Ambajee's influence has stated positively to Meer Khan that he cannot march.

Meer Khan it is said has orders from Holkar to remain this day only in camp should he not be successful in his negotiations to march immediately to join Holkar.

It is positively reported that Holkar intends in the first place to convoy the ladies of his family and his baggage to Adjmere from whence they will proceed either to Oudeypoor or to Joudpoor that from Adjmere he will move through the Shekhaotees and keeping without the range of our forces he proposes to join the Sikhs whom he published to be generally prepared to give him assistance.

Holkar also affect a particular reliance on the king of Kabul on these points however I conclude His Excellency's information will be most correct.

* By my last authentic account Serjy Rao Ghautka with a few horse was encamped at Chetore but it is this day reported that he has continued his march towards Rampoorah a place which is situated about 40 Coss south west from Kotta and which Holkar has granted him in Jagheer. The principal part of his followers has deserted.

I have received no communication whatever from the Durbar respecting His Excellency the Governor General's letter although nine days have elapsed since I had honour to present it to Dowlat Rao Sindia.

Letter No. 2.—Reports that the Holkar and Sindhia after their meeting on the Chumbal had secretly sent a messenger with presents and promises to the French outside India to secure Military assistance against the British.

FROM—COLONEL B CLOSE, RESIDENT AT POONA,

TO—SIR G H BARLOW, GOVERNOR-GENERAL

Poona, the 20th November 1805

Although it may be impossible to establish the truth of the following intelligence, I am induced to give intimation of it for your notice

I am secretly informed, from a source that is worthy of credit, that shortly after the junction of Sindia and Holkar, which took place on the Chumbul, these Chieftains secretly concerted a plan for the purpose of deriving succour from the French, and accordingly prepared addresses for the French Government, which, with suitable presents of jewels, etc, they committed to the care of an intelligent Arab Officer belonging to one of the parties, who proceeded so charged from Hindostan to Tatta or some seaport in that quarter, from whence he was to embark for Muskat or take such a direction as might afford him the fairest prospect of meeting with some French ship by which to forward his packet and presents to their destination. According to the information given to me, the addresses contain a solicitation similar to that made by the same Chieftains to the Governor of Goa, namely for a body of Europeans to be landed on this side of India, their services to be paid for in money or in land, combined with some arrangement relative to a division of conquests. My information further states, that the foregoing intelligence was first made known in this quarter by a member of Balajee Koonjur's family who resides in Poona

Letter No. 3.—Intimates that the Holkar had crossed the Sutlej and entered the country of the Sikhs and that he would like to stay for some time in that quarter to observe whether Ranjit Singh was likely to actively co-operate with the Holkar. He also intimates that the ruler of Patiala and others of the neighbouring states had shown much warmth and kindness to him and that they were all favourably disposed towards the British Government

FROM—LORD LAKE, C-In-C

TO—SIR G H BARLOW, GOVERNOR-GENERAL

Camp Nabha, the 20th November 1805

In my dispatch under date the 22nd instant I informed you of the considerations which had induced me to move into the Sikh country. The enemy fled as I advanced and has at last succeeded in effecting a passage over the Sutledge before either my army or the division under Colonel Burn could reach him.

Though I much regret that the excessive fears of the enemy should have prevented my having any opportunity of attacking him I anticipate all the consequences of a defeat from the precipitate flight which he has been obliged to make and though the weakness and divided state of the Sikh Chiefs in the Punjab may enable him to subsist his army for a short period by plunder (for he is destitute of every other resource) in their countries I cannot believe he will ever extricate his army from the difficulties in which it is now involved and at all events I consider it impracticable for him to invade the possessions of the Hon'ble Company

during this season I however deem the object of accelerating his destruction of such importance that I shall if I observe a disposition in Runjeet Singh of Lahore to co operate in an active manner for the accomplishment of that purpose remain with a force under my personal command for a short period in this quarter but my doing so will not for a moment impede the progress of those arrangements and reductions of expenditure which appears so necessary to relieve the finance and which in the present favourable situation of affairs can in my opinion be made without any risk or danger whatever

I have this day transmitted orders to Major General Jones to proceed with the division under his Command to Guzrat and it is my intention should no extraordinary change take place in Holkar's movements to direct the other Corps now in the field to go immediately into cantonments

Very considerable reductions of the expense of the irregulars have already been made and are now in progress A full report on this subject will be transmitted in a few days

On my arrival at Patiala I reached on the 24th instant I was earnestly solicited to see the Raja Sahib Singh who had been recently reconciled to his Rance through the mediation of Bhya Lal Singh of Khytul Many considerations of a political nature made me deem this of importance and halted yesterday to receive his visit which I returned in the evening The Raja and all the other principal chiefs of the countries on side of the Sutlej are warm in the professions of friendship and attachment to the British Government and action have hitherto perfectly correspond with those professions as both my Battalion (Torn) and that of Colonel Burn continue to be plentifully supplied with provisions and the forces of some of the Chiefs have joined the British Army

Letter No 4 —It is a demi-official letter in which Malcolm intimates that Holkar had crossed the Sutlej and that he will have to stay where he is watching the movements of the Holkar

The enclosure is valuable inasmuch as it throws light on the route and condition of Holkar's Army and his activities on his way to Patiala and beyond the Sutlej

FROM—JOHN MALCOLM

TO—(Some one name not mentioned perhaps the Bombay Governor)

Camp near Amargarh the 28th November 1805

I enclose you an abstract of Holkar's progress up to date

Peace was concluded with Sindia three years ago on terms every way favourable to the interests and honour of both states and it will I have no doubt be ratified by the Governor General and Maharaja General Jones division has been directed to return to Guzerat immediately We are near the Sutlej and to every appearance nothing but friends we have marched far in the hope of seeing an enemy but in vain This Corps will not immediately return as its presence may perhaps be necessary to help or rather to give countenance to the destruction of Holkar which I anxiously hope is near at hand I have been very negligent lately but what with long marches and long negotiations I have had by hands full of work My (indistinct) is excellent as you will see when I visit you at Bombay which I hope to do after putting that foolish boy Sindia in his proper place Ougein I beg you will offer my respects to Mr James.

You have made Asborne such a great man that I shall not be able to keep him in order

*Abstract of a memorandum of the progress of Jeswant Rao Holkar,
part 2nd*

Holkar arrived near Pattaliah on the (date not given) of October. It was said his aid was solicited by Saheb Singh the Raja of that place who having been expelled from Patiala by Ranee Askunwar his wife was then residing at Syfeabad and entertained hopes of bringing that lady to terms by Holkar's assistance.

Saheb Singh for some period after Holkar's arrival at his residence wavered in his conduct and though he had vakeels with Holkar and treated those from that Chieftain with respect and attention it was not till the 24th of October that he was prevailed upon to go personally to visit him. He then consented to do so upon Holkar's promise that he would immediately dismiss the Ranee's vakeels and return her presents and invest Patiala.

Holkar did not perform any form of this agreement, but merely took up a position something nearer Patiala with a view to intimidate the Ranee, who however immediately adopted the most vigorous measures of defence and her ally Bhunga Singh of Tannasseir wrote to the Right Hon'ble Lord Lake informing him she was determined to stand out to the last but requested that Colonel Burn might be ordered to move to her relief.

Long negotiations now ensued between Saheb Singh and the Ranee in which Holkar acted as indicated and always strongly advised the former to conciliatory measures stating that if he was at length compelled to proceed to hostilities nothing effectual could be done till the arrival of his Camps and guns.

Holkar made daily demands of money from Saheb Singh who promised him four lacks of rupees whenever he should put him in possession of Patiala. The Raja continued under the influence of Ranee Kin Kovur his mother to show great aversion to any measures of conciliation.

On the 27th October Holkar sent Meer Khan into Patiala to treat with the Ranee and as that Chieftain ever afterwards appeared to be her strenuous advocate there is reason to suppose that she found means to bring him over to her interest.

About this period Holkar who had hitherto shown great anxiety to preserve the cultivation of the country unhurt, gave free scope to the lawless habits of his followers, who had long suffered the restraint with impatience and were only kept quiet by the promise of regular pecuniary supplies, from the treasures with which Holkar had informed them he was to be furnished by Saheb Singh. Being now disappointed in this expectation, he gave them free permission to plunder and a person from the Ranee generally attended to direct their depredations towards such places as belonged to Saheb Singh himself and were not subjected to her authority.

Holkars Camps and guns reached Hansi on the 30th October, they had fled from the Sherkaotee country with great precipitation on the appointment of Colonel Balls Corps and all the efforts of that officer and of Major General Jones to reach them proved ineffectual.

On the 1st November Saheb Singh sent a message to Holkar telling him that his troops were ruining the country and he wished he would move out of it as soon as possible. Holkar replied that he would not go till he received two lacs of rupees which had been promised him.

After various desultory and ineffectual negotiations Holkar hearing of Colonel Burn's approach took his final departure from Patiala on the 6th November. The Officer who had been in cantonments at Caonaul moved

forward from thence with his detachment consisting of 4 Battalions of Native Infantry 2 Telinga Corps and one of Najeeds and 2,500 Irregulars Cavalry on the 4th November. The primary object to which he was ordered to direct his attention was that of intercepting enemy's Infantry and guns then on their march towards Patiala these had been effected their escape beyond Kytul by forced marches of 15 coss daily before Colonel Burn could possibly reach that place, he therefore altered his direction by advice of Bhaya Lal Singh who joined him on the 5th and proceeded by the route of Poondree between Tinnaisch and Ismailabad to Peerwah a place eighteen coss east of Patiala which he reached on the 8th November and halted there till the 17th.

Holkar's movements had during this interval been so ambiguous that it was difficult to determine whether he intended to attempt the passage of the Sutledge or to move towards the Bikaner desert and endeavour to effect his escape by that route from the dangers wherewith he was surrounded. This will appear more clearly from the following details of that Chieftain's movements and operations.

Holkar's departure from Patiala took place as has been already mentioned on the 6th November. He had during his stay at that place been reduced to such distress for money that he was obliged to sell and dispose of great part of his gold and silver plate for the support of his clamorous followers. From the best account which have been received he sold gold articles to the amount of one lack of rupees and seventeen maunds of silver plate valued at sixty thousand and these with fifty thousand rupees which he received for bills upon Jalpur appear to have been the whole of his pecuniary supplies during his detention there for it does not appear that he received any considerable sum from Sahab Singh or the Rancee his wife and his depredations on the country never extended to the seizure of property but were confined to the standing harvest which he used as forage for his country.

Holkar was joined by his infantry and guns on the 6th at a short distance from Patiala and on the 11th reached Malhera Kotelah 26 coss from that place but equally convenient either for the route through Bikaner or for the crossing of the Sutlej as might appear advisable.

Holkar's movement to Kotahat Royar and Malboody on the 13th had a more decided appearance and seemed to indicate his intention of entering the Punjab. He appears however to have been much influenced in the route which he adopted by the prospect of the contributions which he always levied in greater or less proportion from every place of note at which he arrived.

On the 15th Holkar's army reached Goojurnul within seven coss of the Suddchanah Ghaut upon the Sutlej. On the 16th and 18th Holkar marched thirteen in a W S W direction still however keeping within six or eight coss of the river whilst every exertion was used and high rewards offered for the discovery of a ford.

On the 20th Holkar encamped near the town of Busseah which he pillaged and all accounts agree in stating that he obtained great booty at that place which appears more probable as from this period the complaints of want of money among his followers have been less frequent. In consequence of the urgent request of most of the principal Sikh Chiefs on this side of the Sutlej Lord Lake had advanced with the Army under his personal command into the Sikh country and had pushed Colonel Burn's division forward to Patiala. These movements alarmed Holkar who on the 21st of November made a forced March of 25 coss back to the Sadehana Ghaut and on the 22nd moved 4 coss west along the banks of the river to

the Bhalade Serny or Bharra Ghat Upon his arrival at that place he found that a body of Sikhs on the opposite side of the river had taken possession of all the boats at which he was so much incensed that he ordered them to be commanded As this proved of no avail he retired to his tent in great distress and consulted with Karim Singh what was to be done Kerem Singh undertook to negotiate with them and desired Holkar to have it previously proclaimed through his camp that no plundering would be allowed on the other side of the river and that the greatest care must be taken that no injury should be done to the cultivation

After this preliminary step Kerem Singh commenced his negotiation and met with complete success, though we have no detail of the means whereby he accomplished it

On the 22nd Army began to cross over and on the 23rd the whole had reached the opposite side

At this time Colonel Burn was within 32 coss of the Ghaut and the grand army under Lord Lake had reached Patiala a delay of two days longer would most certainly have proved Holkar's destruction

The contributions levied by Holkar since his departure from Patiala appear by the last information to have been as follows —

	Rs
From Saheb Singh for the protection of certain villages on his route	10,000
Malhere Kotela ...	12,000
Chawdee	9,000
Mahawdee .	14,000
Busseah	18,000
Kote ..	7,000
Jagroon .	18,000
Kotela Rayan ..	12,000
Bulwundee	8,000
Total	<u>1,08,000</u>

This is independent of the plunder of Busseah which is said to have been very considerable but cannot be ascertained Holkar's fears of the British armies appear not to have subsided on his crossing the Sutlej as he has continued his flight by rapid marches plundering the country as he past

He has hitherto met with no opposition and has indeed by mixing in all the quarrels of the petty Chiefs generally prevailed on one party to aid him in his excess on another he continues his endeavours to support the spirits of his followers by assurances of support and aid from Runjeet Singh of Lahore and the Afghan monarch of Kabul but as the of such hopes must soon be obvious It is difficult to think that he will be able to subsist his army for a much longer period and the system of plunder which he has adopted seems likely to accelerate his ruin and to ensure the ultimate destruction of the contemptible rabble of which his army is composed

Letter No 5 —Colonel Close intimates that the contents of the correspondence of the Holkar and Sindia with the French authorities in Mauritius for military aid against the English, has been corroborated by the documents seized from three French prisoners in Poona

FROM—COLONEL CROSEY

TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL

Poona the 15th December 1805

I do myself the honour to communicate the following particulars in continuation of the subject of my dispatch to your address under date the 20th ultimo

Since that period I have further learnt that the letters etc from Dowlat Rao Sindia and Jeswant Rao Holkar to the French Government were dispatched from Hindostan in April or May last that these letters are in reply to the address to the Indian Chieftains from the Governor of the Mauritius of which copies bearing different numbers were in possession of the three French prisoners who were delivered over to the British Government at this Station by order of the Peshwa in February 1804 That the letters in question recapitulate the contents of the French Address assent wholly to its different statements and anxiously solicit the aid of an European force to be landed if possible near the mouth of the Indus or should that be found impracticable at any other spot on the Western side of India that might be judged most convenient that in moving to the Northward amongst the Sikhs a part of Holkar's plan is to conciliate the Chiefs of that Nation to co-operate with him and his colleagues against the English should the expected reinforcement from Europe arrive and that his correspondence with the Court of Caboul has a similar air as that Government would have the means of facilitating the operations of the reinforcement materially should it land at the northern point particularly recommended That from the beginning Holkar has taken the most active part in the project and apparently taken the greatest interest in its success and that accordingly his present of jewels etc for the French Government is more costly than that sent by Sindia That the project has been communicated to the Mahratta Chieftains of any consequence in the Deccan and that at one time the probability of its success was regarded with serious attention by some of the principal persons at this Durhar

The foregoing information refers to the same source as that formerly communicated

Letter No 6 —The writer intimates that negotiations for a peace with the British Government have been conducted by the Agents of the Holkar in a satisfactory manner The details of the terms and discussions regarding them contained in a number of letters which form enclosures to letter No 72 of Volume 2 and are printed at the end of this letter

FROM—J MALCOLM

TO—N B EDMONSTONE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

Camp near Amirgarh the 8th January 1806

I am commanded by the right Hon'ble Lord Lake to communicate to you for the information of the Hon'ble the Governor-General the particulars of the negotiations which terminated in the conclusion of the present treaty of peace with Jeswant Rao Holkar

The first overtures from that Chief were made in indirect manner by Shaikh Habibullah, and Balla Ram Sait two of his confidential officers applying for leave to come to the British Camp. They were not in the first instance furnished with the proper credentials but on their ascertaining that they would be favourably received they obtained the necessary letters and were in consequence publicly negotiated as accredited agents of Jeswant Rao Holkar, with a view of conveying to the Hon'ble the Governor-General the fullest information upon important negotiation which ensued with the Vakeels. I transmit the minutes of my different conferences with them to which an appendix is annexed which contains translation of all the letters that past during the negotiation.

This document will I am assured fully satisfy the Governor-General that every effort has been used to effect this settlement in the mode the most favourable to the interests of the British Government. He will I trust approve the principle upon which the negotiation has been conducted as well as of the slight deviations which attention to that principle required to be made from the letter of his instructions of the Right Hon'ble Lord Lake under date the 26th of November, as far as it is possible to judge from the circumstances which have occurred during this negotiation. I should conclude Jeswant Rao Holkar to be sincerely desirous of peace with the British Government and I am satisfied that the manner in which it has been conducted has been calculated to make the most salutary impressions upon the minds of that Chief and his adherents of the justice, power and liberality of the British Government.

Minutes of a conference, between Lieut-Colonel John Malcolm and Ballaram Sait and Shaikh Habibullah Vakils from Jeswant Rao Holkar held in Camp on the banks of the Beyah River on the 1st of January 1806

Lieut-Colonel Malcolm informed the Vakeels that he had sent for them by desire of Lord Lake to communicate to them two very extraordinary letters which had been received two days ago from Meer Khan. These letters were the Colonel said to the address of Captain Skinner and himself. They were both but particularly the former improper and insolent in a degree. However much the Colonel said it might be the wish of Lord Lake to treat such a communication with silent contempt he felt obliged from the state of the negotiation and the rank which Meer Khan held among Holkar's adherents to notice this communication. He had accordingly written to Holkar upon the subject and enclosed to that Chief copies of the answers which he had directed to be written to Meer Khan. An answer the Colonel said was just received from Jeswant Rao Holkar which with all the letters referring to this subject, Lord Lake had desired the Colonel to show them and to demand any further explanation they could give.

Shaikh Habibullah said they had that moment received a letter from their master upon this subject and that they could assure Lord Lake that Meer Khan did not possess the power that he boasted and that he was entirely under Holkar's orders, his insolent letters were they said the production of a low character which (in spite of all his fortune) he saw Meer Khan, Shaikh Habibullah added, had been one intoxicated with success. Jeswant Rao had in the hour of triumph given him Rohilkhand and it was not surprising if a man of his character felt and expressed disappointment at a settlement which did away his golden hopes for ever, but the Shaikh added he like all others will be soon reconciled to the present arrangement.

Colonel Malcolm expressed his belief that this letter of Meer Khan was an artifice and said if it was and Holkar had any knowledge of it that his conduct was most unworthy. The Vakeels however were positive this was impossible. They took their leave after promising to write to Jeswant Rao Holkar on the subject.

Vol 2—] enclosure No 4 to letter No 72

Minutes of a conference between Lieut Colonel John Malcolm and Balla Ram Sait and Shaikh Habibullah Vakeels from Jeswant Rao Holkar held in Camp on the bank of the Bryah river on the 11th of January 1806

Colonel Malcolm informed the Vakeels that he had sent for them by orders of Lord Lake to desire they would leave Camp as His Lordship considered the negotiation at an end. Deremjee not having yet arrived with the treaty and four days had elapsed since that person left camp under a positive engagement of returning in two days after having obtained its ratification. This unaccountable delay combined with the reports which had been received of Holkar's continued efforts to engage Raja Ranjit Singh to espouse his interests had convinced Lord Lake of the insincerity of their master. His Lordship therefore desired that the Vakeels would leave Camp and it was his intention to march next day and recommence the most active hostilities against Jeswant Rao Holkar with whom after the evasion and deceit which had been practised upon this occasion His Lordship was resolved never again to enter into any negotiation whatever.

Balla Ram Sait said there was too much truth in what Colonel Malcolm had stated and that his Lordship was justly incensed but he trusted he would be able to explain the delay which had occurred in a manner that would present the necessity of adopting the extreme measures which were in contemplation. His master was he said surrounded by persons unacquainted with the British character and these continued to persuade him that by persevering in his demands some further concessions might be obtained. Both himself and Shaikh Habibullah Balla Ram Sait added had done every thing in their power to remove this unfortunate impression and to satisfy Jeswant Rao that no alteration could be expected in Lord Lake's resolution and that he was only injuring his own interests by a further delay. Their representations would have been attended with effect had it not been for the voluntary interference of Ranjit Singh who had promised to obtain Lord Lake's consent to the cession of tank, Rampoorab and to the immediate delivery of all the possessions south of the Taptee. Jeswant Rao Holkar had yesterday sent Deremjee with a modified copy of the Treaty to Futtey Singh Alloowalla to whom Ranjit Singh had written to be the channel of his mediation with Lord Lake. Futtey Singh Ballaram said had however refused to interfere in a manner the most decided and had told Deremjee in plain language that if his master did not settle with the British Government immediately he was resolved to join that Government to attack him. This open and manly declaration had caused Deremjee to go back instantly from Futtey Singh's Camp which was on the opposite bank of the river and he had sent a message to them of what had passed and they had Ballaram said no doubt but Jeswant Rao Holkar disappointed in this last effort would immediately affix his signature to the Treaty and they earnestly hoped His Lordship would consent to wait another day or two before he broke off a negotiation which was so near a happy conclusion.

Colonel Malcolm observed that he had no doubt of the truth of their statement as all that part of it which related to Deremjee's mission to Futtey Singh had been before communicated by that Chief but that Lord

Lake considered this last act of Jeswant Rao Holkar as an aggravation of his former conduct and could not, in the hope that his disappointment in this instant would produce a change, consent to any further delay. The Vakeels after endeavouring for some time but without effect to prevail on Colonel Malcolm to, solicit Lord Lake to wait two days more informed the Colonel that under the circumstances they were placed they had no option but that of leaving Camp and breaking off the negotiation of showing Colonel Malcolm the communications which they had received two days ago from their master and they had determined upon the latter and were satisfied the perusal of that document would remove every doubt of Jeswant Rao Holkar's sincerity. They immediately sent a horseman to their tents who returned with a letter to their address from Jeswant Rao Holkar which they gave Colonel Malcolm to read. Its contents briefly stated his approbation of their past exertions and directed them to continue their efforts but under no event to allow the negotiation to be broken off as he was determined to make peace and would ultimately agree to the terms which Lord Lake had offered. He informed them of Runjit Singh's professed mediation which he said he had accepted in the hope it might succeed. If it did not he directed the Vakeels to signify his unqualified consent to the Treaty as it stood.

Lieut-Colonel Malcolm after perusing this letter said he would inform Lord Lake of its contents and that he had no doubt His Lordship would be pleased with the opinions and candour with which the Vakeels had on this occasion acted. Colonel Malcolm went to Lord Lake's tent to inform His Lordship of what had past and take his orders and on return he informed the Vakeels that Lord Lake considered the circumstance of their having produced their instructions, to have made a great alteration in the question and he would agree to wait two days more but as this was the last of delay to which he would ever consent he thought it best that one of the Vakeels should go to their master and the other might remain in Camp till the period of two days had expired when if the Treaty was not ratified and everything concluded to His Lordship's satisfaction he also should receive his dismissal. The Vakeels expressed their gratitude at this further indulgence which they said they were obliged to confess the late proceedings of their Master had not merited. It was immediately settled that Shaikh Habibullah should proceed to Holkar's camp and that he should return to the place to which Lord Lake intended to march (which was within 20 miles of Onnunt Sir) in the course of the next day or the day after with the ratified Treaty. A letter was prepared from Lord Lake to Jeswant Rao Holkar and given to Shaikh Habibullah after which the Vakeels returned to their tents.

Translation of a letter from Amir Khan to Captain Skinner

I have been hitherto prevented from addressing you by a sense of propriety which appeared to preclude our correspondence in the relative situations which we held to each other. The treaty which is now concluded between the Maharaja and the British Government has removed the obstacles which prevented our intercourse and I eagerly seize the opportunity thus afforded.

Lord Lake has been pleased to adopt measures for establishing the tranquility of India, but I am surprised that his wisdom and foresight did not dictate the propriety of a territorial assignment for my support. The ancient possessions of the Afghans in Rohilkhund and the Dooab have all fallen under the British dominion and my only idea in joining Holkar in the late war, was to procure for myself an adequate establishment in those parts at the return of peace.

You will have heard that General Wellesley offered me at a former period a considerable territory in the Deccan and that Captain Baillie also proffered me something similar in Bunnickhad but the existing engagements between myself and Holkar made me at that time reject both these establishments and I have addressed you to say that if you have any regard for the future tranquillity of Hindustan and the quiet of its peaceable inhabitants you will represent these circumstances to His Lordship and procure me a suitable and adequate territorial provision, for this will prevent the occurrence of my future disturbances in the company's possessions. I must have informed you that the rise and continuance of Holkar's power has been entirely owing to the strength of my arm and that although a peace has been concluded with him tranquillity can never be re-established without my assent and concurrence for that providence which has enabled me to raise Holkar to power may also in a still greater degree prosper my endeavours in favour of any other person whom I may choose hereafter to set up. The King of Kabul my countryman will always be ready to espouse the cause of the Afghans and to vindicate their rights by an invasion of Hindustan and I leave you to judge of the consequences if therefore the British Government have any desire for permanent repose they will consider much of my claims and favour me with a speedy answer. The stability of the British power rests solely upon their pecuniary resources and their system of discipline. My claims to dominion are founded upon the more natural rights of birth and the long settlement of my countrymen in these regions. I also must further acquaint you that if a peace is concluded with Holkar without my participation he will remain alone in the midst of his army for you may consider all his followers as my dependants nor can all the power of the British Government compel me to retire to obscurity or shield their subjects and possessions from my activity. You have great troubles before you and I give you fair warning that you may not hereafter reproach me with having taken you by surprise.

His Lordship's conduct in having retained the countries of Tonk, Rampoorah and Jaipore which formerly constituted my establishment is in the highest degree thoughtless and shows a great want of policy of good sense.

Considering you to be my friend I have made you this communication and you may act upon it as you think proper.

A true translation

C POSLEY Captain

*Translation of a letter from the Right Hon ble Lord Lake to
Jorwant Rao Holkar written on the 28th December*

I have been much surprised at the contents of two letters written by Meer Khan to the address of Lieutenant Colonel Malcolm and Captain Skinner and here is enclosed copies of them for your information as also of the answers which those gentlemen have sent him in reply by my directions.

When I entered into negotiations with you I certainly imagined that you possessed absolute command and control over all your followers and dependants but should there be a shadow of truth in what Meer Khan takes upon him to assert the contrary will appear to be the case.

In concluding an arrangement of such importance as a Treaty of peace between states it is necessary that I should be fully acquainted with the ground upon which I proceed and I therefore request that you will afford me explicit information with regard to the degree of authority which you

really do possess in your own army for should it appear that there exists any doubt upon this subject, no reliance can be placed upon the Treaty which we are now negotiating

It is proper that you should immediately adopt measures in order to remove that doubt which these letters are calculated to excite for should no vigorous step be taken upon the occasion it may cause the suspension of the friendly negotiation already commenced between the states No delay ought to occur in this affair

The time stipulated for the arrival of your ratification to the treaty is already elapsed Delay in affairs of the magnitude are dangerous and improper.

A true translation

C PASLEY, *Captain*

Translation of a letter from Lieutenant-Colonel Malcolm to Amir Khan.

Your letters to my address and that of Captain Skinner have been received and submitted to the perusal of Lord Lake

His Lordship after having understood their contents observed that the Holkar family have long been established with sovereign authority in Hindoostan, that the British Government never wished to subvert any established power whatever, much less one with which they have entered into a friendly negotiation, but that Ameer Khan cannot be considered as a participator in the dominion of that family since if he should possess any such pretensions they have never been recognised by this Government but rest entirely between himself and Jeswant Rao Holkar

With regard to the establishments offered to Meer Khan by General Wellesley, Captain Baillie, these His Lordship observed were merely with a view to weaken the power of Holkar then at war with the British Government and that if Meer Khan had acceded to them when made, he would of course have reaped the benefits thereof Now that a peace is about to be concluded with the Maharajah, all his servants and dependants must (His Lordship observed) be considered as entirely subject to his control and authority and remain perfectly unknown and unnoticed by the British Government.

With regard to the more absurd and ridiculous parts of Meer Khan's letter, they meant no reply

The above are the observations which His Lordship was pleased to make upon this occasion

A true translation,

C PASLEY, *Captain*

*Translation of a letter from the Right Hon'ble Lord Lake to
Jeswant Rao Holkar dispatched on 2nd of January 1806*

Upon the first arrival of your Plenipotentiaries in my Camp for the purpose of negotiating a peace, their demands appeared to me unreasonable and inadmissible, as I had however already declared my readiness to enter into negotiations it would have been inconsistent with the open sincerity of the British Character to have refused them a patient hearing Their propositions were therefore severally discussed and the terms of a treaty were at length finally agreed upon by both parties and your vakeels received one copy thereof signed and sealed by myself, delivering to me at the same time a counterpart under their own seals and signature with a stipulation that

your ratification thereto should be procured in the course of three days further for this purpose however they requested permission to repair personally to your presence which proceeding I consented to though it appeared to be utterly inconsistent with their official characters of plenipotentiaries. They accordingly departed but upon their return I was surprised by their delivery of new propositions instead of those which had already been settled and agreed upon. As no deviation however could possibly be admitted from what had been thus formerly arranged they again consented to the original treaty and requested two days longer for obtaining its ratification. This also was granted and I have now patiently awaited the result till the morning of the fourth day but all in vain. It has therefore become apparent that the negotiation in question has been entirely deception for there are only two reasons which I can possibly assign for this delay either that you are yourself disinclined to a peace or that you do not possess sufficient authority for its final conclusion without the concurrence of your own refractory chieftains in either of which cases the negotiations thus set on foot must have been equally illusive and insincere.

Your Vakeels have now been honorably dismissed from my camp, and will soon pay you their respects. You must therefore consider the negotiations to be entirely broken off and the treaty which you previously received from your Vakeels under my seal and signature as null and void.

A true translation

C. POSILEY

Captain

Minutes of a conference between Lieut Colonel John Malcolm and Balla Ram Sait and Shaikh Habibullah persons calling themselves Vakeels of Jeshwant Rao Holkar held in Camp on the Banks of the Bejah river on the 20th December 1805

Lieut Colonel Malcolm asked Shaikh Habibullah and Balla Ram Sait if they had any letters from Jeshwant Rao Holkar on their replying in the negative he told them they could not be considered as Vakeels. They said they were satisfied they could not but if there was a disposition to treat of which Jeshwant Rao Holkar had doubts they would soon be furnished with credentials. Lieut Colonel Malcolm said Lord Lake would grant Jeshwant Rao Holkar terms provided those were of a nature to give the British Government and its allies full security against the future excesses of that chief. Shaikh Habibullah asked if Colonel Malcolm would permit him to state his master's reasons for sending this mission and the expectations he had formed from its success. On Lieut Colonel Malcolm assenting the Sk. made a studied speech respecting the great qualities of Jeshwant Rao Holkar who however he admitted was now convinced that his single efforts against the British State were fruitless and that impression combined with a laudable wish of restoring peace to India had inclined him to the present overture and that his expectations were limited to the full and undisturbed possession of the territories and right of the Holkar family. Lieut Colonel Malcolm in reply informed him that though they were not yet vested with powers as accredited Vakeels should be he had no objection either to hear what was stated or to inform them of the principles upon which the British Government would make peace with Jeshwant Rao Holkar. The past conduct of that Chieftain he said had not been such as to inspire much confidence and the greatest difficulty in a settlement would be the nature of the security which the British Government must take against the future possible excesses of that Chief. The Vakeels began to extoll their master and stated that no peace (?) could not be a doubt Jeshwant Rao

is a treaty which had been drawn out after the most mature reflection which was grounded on the most just and liberal principles and cond every cession that could (in Lord Lake's opinion) be made to ant Rao Holkar consistent with a due regard for the security of the sh Government and its allies. It was neither, Colonel Malcolm added, d to Lord Lake's high rank nor the present commanding state of the sh power to make any proposition but that which it was resolved to attain and the Vakeels after hearing the treaty would be able at once to a decided answer whether their master agreed to it or not and such answer was what Lord Lake required as he had adopted the present and decided proceeding with a view of avoiding all delay whatever the negotiation. Colonel Malcolm after these observations read the wing draft of a treaty

*Treaty of peace and amity between the British Government
and Jeswant Rao Holkar*

Whereas disagreement has arisen between the British Government and ant Rao Holkar, and it is now the desire of both parties to restore ual harmony and concord, the following articles of agreement are efore concluded between Lieut-Colonel Malcolm on the part of the r'ble Company and Shaikh Habibullah and Bala Ram Sait on the part eswant Rao Holkar, the said Lieut-Colonel John Malcolm having ial authority for that purpose from the right Hon'ble Lord Lake Com- der in Chief, His Lordship aforesaid being invested with full powers authority from the Hon'ble Sir G. H. Barlow, Bart-Governor General, Said Shaikh Habibullah and Bala Ram Sait also duly invested with full ers on the part of Jeswant Rao Holkar

Article 1st—The British Government engages to abstain from the prosecu of hostilities against Jeswant Rao Holkar, and to consider him hence- h as the friend of the Hon'ble Company, Jeswant Rao Holkar agreeing his part, to abstain from all measures and proceedings of an hostile re against the British Government and its allies, and from all measures proceedings in any manner directed to the injury of the British Govern- it or its allies

Article 2nd—Jeswant Rao Holkar hereby renounces all right and title to districts of Tonk, Rampoor, Boondée, Sameydee, Bamungaum, Decg other places north of the Chumbul and now in the occupation of the ish Government

Article 3rd—The Hon'ble Company hereby engages to leave no concern h the ancient possessions of the Holkar family in Malwa or with any of Rajas situated to the South of the Chumbul and the Hon'ble Company ee to deliver over immediately to Jeswant Rao Holkar, such of the ient possessions of the Holkar family in the Deccan now in the occupa- of the Hon'ble Company as are situated south of the River Taptee, h the exception of the fort and pergunnah of Chandore. The fort and gunnah of Ambar and Seaghaum and the villages and pergunnah situated the southward of the river Godavery which will remain in the possession the Hon'ble Company. The Hon'ble Company however in considera- n of the respectability of the Holkar family further engages that in the nt of the conduct of Jeswant Rao Holkar, being such as to satisfy that e of his amicable and peaceable intentions towards the British Govern- nt and its allies it will at the expiration of eighteen months from the e of this Treaty restore to the family of Holkar the forts of Chandore d Jalna and their respective districts, the pergunnahs of Amber and ghaum and the districts formerly belonging to the Holkar family ated to the south of the Godavery

Article 4th—Jeswant Rao Holkar hereby renounces all claim to the district of Koonch in the province of Bundelkhund and all claims of every description in that province

Article 5th—Jeswant Rao Holkar hereby renounces all claims of every description upon the British Government and its allies

Article 6th—Jeswant Rao Holkar hereby engages never to entertain to his service Europeans of any description whether British subject or others without the consent of the British Government

Article 7th—Jeswant Rao Holkar hereby engages not to admit into his councils or service Serjee Rao Ghautka as that individual has been proclaimed as an enemy to the British Government

Article 8th—Upon the foregoing conditions Jeswant Rao Holkar shall be permitted to return to Hindostan without being molested by the British Government and the British Government will not interfere in any manner in the concerns of Jeswant Rao Holkar. It is however stipulated that Jeswant Rao Holkar shall immediately upon the Treaty being signed and ratified proceed towards Hindostan by a route which leaves the towns of Puttialah, Khytull, Jhendi and the countries of the Honble Company and the Raja of Jaipore on the left and Jeswant Rao Holkar engages on his route to make his troops abstain from plunder and that they shall commit no act of hostility in any of the countries through which they may pass

Article 9th—This Treaty consisting of nine articles being this day settled by Lieut Colonel John Malcolm on the part of the Honble Company and by Shaikh Habibullah and Balaram Sait on the part of Jeswant Rao Holkar, Lieutenant Colonel John Malcolm has delivered one copy thereof in Persian and English signed and sealed by himself and confirmed by the seal and signature of the Right Honble Lord Lake to said Shaikh Habibullah and Balaram Sait who on their part have delivered to Lieut. Colonel John Malcolm a counterpart of the same signed and sealed by themselves and engage to deliver another copy thereof duly ratified by Jeswant Rao Holkar to the Right Honble Lord Lake in the space of three days the said Lieut Colonel John Malcolm also engaging to deliver to them a counterpart of the same duly ratified by the Honble the Governor General within the space of one month from this date

The Vakeels listened with great attention to the draft of the Treaty and then proposed it should be read over article by article in order that a full discussion might take place of the whole. Colonel Malcolm required to know if they objected to the principle upon which it was drawn up that of combining the object of restoring the Holkar family to most of its ancient possessions with a due attention to such precautions as were rendered necessary by the personal character of Jeswant Rao Holkar its present ostensible representative. The Vakeels said they admitted the justice of this principle but hoped some parts of the Treaty would be altered the Colonel said that no changes could be admitted in the Treaty that either affected the principle upon which it was grounded or that altered in an essential manner any of its leading stipulations but that there would be no objection to any lesser modifications as the British Government was sincere in its desire to establish peace if that could be effected with any hope of security and permanence

The Treaty was now read article by article the 2nd was the first article on which a discussion took place Balaram Sait observed that it was impossible his master could ever agree to the cessions therein stipulated Tonk Rampoor and other places mentioned in the article were some of the most ancient possessions of the Holkar family and that they could not

be abandoned without disgrace Colonel Malcolm observed in reply that if Balaram had expressed his master's sentiments there was an end of the negotiation as he could positively inform them the British Government would not recede from this demand and that a cession of all territories north of the Chumbul had been demanded from Sindia to which that Chief had readily acceded The object of this demand, the Colonel said was neither the acquisition of revenue or power but the establishment of a clear and distinct line of demarcation between the Mahrattas and the British Government and this was considered as indispensable to preserve in future the relations of amity and concord between these states The reasoning of Balaram Sait appeared, the Colonel said, most extraordinary in supposing that the cession could not be made because the territories had belonged to the Holkar family for sixty or seventy years but he should recollect that a chief wishing to preserve his own possessions should be cautious how he attacked those of others for the moment war commenced the whole were thrown into hazard and if his efforts were unsuccessful he was likely to be reduced to the necessity of sacrificing part of his dominions to preserve the rest Jeswant Rao had, the Colonel said, notoriously the aggression in the present contest, he had commenced hostilities against the British Government without the smallest provocation On his complete failure it was unnecessary to expatiate, but when the Vakeels reflected on the state of their master's power at the period he commended war and on his present condition they assuredly could anticipate nothing but his complete ruin from the further continuance of so unequal a contest and under that fair view of the case they must be sensible of the great generosity of the British Government in offering the present terms or indeed in giving any terms whatever to an enemy so reduced and to one who was not only the aggressor but whose hostility against that Government had been marked by acts of the greatest atrocity The Vakeels both said they did not mean to contend that their master was equal to a contest with the British Government nor could they deny that he had been the first aggressor in the present war He had commenced it with hopes which were now for ever abandoned and his present ambition was limited to the peaceable enjoyment of his family possessions The possession of Tonk, Rampoorah was Shaikh Habibullah said of importance as it enabled Holkar to exact the tribute from the Rajah of Jaipore Colonel Malcolm observed that it could be of no use in that respect as an article of the Treaty stipulated that Jeswant Rao Holkar renounce all claims upon the British Government and its allies and the Raja of Jaipore was one of the allies of that state The right to the tribute of Jaipore was, Bala Ram said, of every old standing, that tribute was considerable (3 lacks of rupees) and he did not conceive his master could be brought to abandon it He therefore trusted that the British Government when peace with his master turned upon a point of this nature, would not sacrifice that blessing by adhering to an engagement which was attended with little political and no pecuniary advantage to that state Colonel Malcolm with same warmth informed Balaram Sait that he was little acquainted with the character of the British Government if he conceived it ever sacrificed its faith from motives of expediency That state the Colonel observed owed its present power in India to its reputation and no consideration of obtaining advantages however great or of avoiding danger however imminent, would ever lead to any measure that affected in the slightest degree that reputation on which it might truly be said its existence depended Bala Ram Sait assented to the truth of what Colonel Malcolm had said respecting the character for good faith of the British Government but stated his apprehension that Jeswant Rao would not consent to the renunciation of the tribute Colonel Malcolm replied that if his apprehensions were well grounded the negotiation was at an end, for it was a point which never could be conceded by Lord Lake Shaikh Habibullah observed in a manner that the Rajah of Jynagar had entitled

himself to the gratitude of the British Government by delivering up the person of the unfortunate Vizeer Ali who had taken shelter in his capital. Lieut Colonel Malcolm expressed to the Shaikh his astonishment and indignation to this observation which was as absurd as it was disrespectful and unsuited to the character in which he was received. Did he mean Colonel Malcolm asked him to state that the Rajah of Jaipore was to blame for having resigned to justice an atrocious murderer who had put to death an eminent English Public Officer at a moment when he was actually the guest of that officer at the very period the assassin struck him was treating him with every possible kindness and attention was it Colonel Malcolm demanded the Shaikh's serious opinion that such an offender merited protection from any civilized state. Did he think the Raja of Jynghir would have been justified in going to war with a superior power to save such a criminal from justice. Bala Ram here entreated Colonel Malcolm to say no more observing that Shaikh Habibullah had made a very wrong and imprudent observation but that he was assured he had made it inadvertently and the conduct of Vizeer Ali was known to have been most atrocious and that the lenity of the British Government in not punishing him with death was every where acknowledged. Shaikh Habibullah asked pardon for what had occurred and said he had been misunderstood and as a proof that no such sentiments as I conceived existed in his mind he was ready to insert in article and the present treaty that no protection should be given by Jeswant Rao Holkar to any offender against the British Government. Colonel Malcolm said there was no occasion for such an article it was a duty of friendship which every power in alliance with another was expected to fulfil without the subsistence of any specific engagement. Bala Ram then asked whether it was also meant to insist upon the cession of Bamungaum Deeg, Boondie Lakhree and Pattun. Colonel Malcolm replied that all these places were north of the Chumbul and that river had already been made the line of demarcation with Sindia and the same arrangement was judged necessary with Jeswant Rao Holkar the fact was that Bamungaum and Deeg were to be considered in the light of dependencies upon Tonk Rampoor and as to Boondie Lakhree and Pattun they were of trifling value and could only be deemed important as passes to Hindostan but that they could be of no use to Jeswant Rao Holkar and as such he had agreed to renounce all claim upon that quarter.

The Vakeels said Pattun was a fruitful province on the banks of the Chumbul and on the south side of the pass and that as it was of no importance but from its revenue they trusted it would be given to Jeswant Rao that Lakhree was also a very desirable possession to that Chief and that Boondie though of little value was in the eyes of the Maharajah of the greatest consequences. On Colonel Malcolm enquiring the reason the Vakeels did not scruple to state that the Raja in favouring the English and in seizing one or two of Holkar's villages had merited the most exemplary punishment which the Maharajah was resolved to inflict. Colonel Malcolm observed that if it had been possible before for Lord Lake to recede from the demand of this cession this open declaration of the intentions of their master would now render it entirely out of the question as it was utterly irreconcilable to the Honour and dignity of the British Government to give over to the vengeance of its enemies a Chief whose conduct during the war had been marked by every effort within his limited means to aid its operations.

The Vakeels endeavoured to qualify their original declaration and said they did not mean to state that it was Holkar's intention to destroy the Boondie Raja but only to punish him. Colonel Malcolm said the British Government would not give Jeswant Rao Holkar the power to do

fact little more than a petty Zamindar his personal possessions being limited to the town of Boondee which commanded the pass and to a few villages not altogether exceeding a revenue of forty or fifty thousand rupees This the Vakeels admitted and said it certainly was not a point upon which the negociation should be brought to an end(?)

On the 3rd article a good deal of discussion took place The Vakeels wished that the obligations of the British Government not to interfere with Holkar's claims on his tributaries should be made more specific which Colonel Malcolm assented, they objected to the length of the period which a great part of Holkar's possessions south of the Deccan were to be kept in the hands of the British Government principally on the ground that its operation would produce great distress among Jeswant Rao's adherents whom his limited means would make it difficult for him to support Colonel Malcolm stated this article to be one of the most indispensable of the treaty It had been formed the Colonel said on the principle laid down at the commencement of the negotiation, that the British Government had from the personal character of Jeswant Rao Holkar a right to require an adequate security against his immediate reversion to those habits in which his life had hitherto past and this was the only security that it appeared practicable to take The British Government had in settling this treaty the Colonel added, not only to pay attention to its own interests but to those of its allies, and a period must elapse before it could satisfy the Soobah of the Deccan and the Peshwah, whom this article more immediately affected, that Jeswant Rao could with security to these states be admitted to the enjoyment of his possessions in that quarter, upon the objections which the Vakeels had stated to this stipulation, grounded on the distress it would occasion to the adherents of Jeswant Rao Holkar, Colonel Malcolm observed, that if that Chief acted agreeable to his professions and maintained only a force adequate to his means no such distress could exist, but if he continued to maintain an Army beyond what he had resources to pay, he must early revert to the same system of plunder which he had hitherto followed and which after a variety of vicissitudes had brought him to the reduced situation in which he was now placed

The Vakeels admitted the justice of these observations, they however expressed their hope that some alteration would yet be made in this article and Baji Ram Sait suggested that to show there was some confidence in his master the fort and pergunnah of Ghalna (Jalna) should be given up Colonel Malcolm said that as such an alteration was not very material he would mention it to Lord Lake

To the fourth article the Vakeels stated no further objections, than what related to the value of the province of Koonch, which though small they said was an object of consequence to Jeswant Rao Holkar in his reduced conduct and they entreated Colonel Malcolm would state this to Lord Lake without however saying that they refused the assent to the article as it stood

To the 5th and 6th articles no objection whatever were offered and an equal ready assent was given to the 7th The Vakeels declaring that their master held in the greatest abhorrence the atrocious conduct of Serjee Rao Ghautka to the British Residence, no objection was stated to the 8th article further than that the Vakeels expressed their confidence that the road pointed out for their return to Malwa would be such as to prevent their suffering any distress either from want of water or provisions

As the discussions had been protracted to a late hour it was agreed to retire and that Colonel Malcolm after stating all that had passed to the Right Honble Lord Lake should prepare a revised draft of the Treaty and that the negotiation should be brought to a conclusion next day

Minutes of a conference between Lieut Colonel John Malcolm and Bala Ram and Shaikh Habibullah Vakeels from Jeswant Rao Holkar held in Camp on the banks of the Beyah river on the 24th of December 1805.

A private and confidential servant of Jeswant Rao Holkar of the name of Duremjee was introduced to this conference. He had been sent the Vakeels said to hear what passed and to convey to Jeswant Rao any engagement that might be concluded.

Lieut Colonel Malcolm informed the Vakeels that he had stated all they had represented to Lord Lake and that His Lordship from a sincere desire to conclude a peace had made every alteration he could possibly admit in the treaty and a fair draft had been prepared containing these modifications which were very favourable to the interests of Jeswant Rao Holkar. The first the Colonel stated was in the 2nd article in which instead of the river Chuinbul the Biondy Hill was made the boundary and the pergunnah of Pattun which was situated to the south of these Hills remained with Jeswant Rao Holkar. In the third article all mention of the Fort of Chalnah and its pergunnah was omitted and that Fortress would of course be immediately delivered over to Jeswant Rao Holkar. By the fourth article as it now stood the Vakeels (Colonel Malcolm said) would see that the British Government looked exclusively for the objects which it professed to have in view. It was stipulated by that article that in the event of the relations of amity continuing to subsist with Jeswant Rao after the expiration of two years the Pergunnah of Koonch should be given in Jagheer to the daughter of that Chief to be held under the Company's Government in the same manner as Balah Bie now holds the Jagheer granted to her under the treaty of peace with Dowlat Rao Sindia.

The Vakeels expressed their sense of the liberality which had dictated these modifications and particularly of the intended grant of Koonch which would they stated make the most favourable impression upon their master who would see that the British state which members had tried to make him believe could never forgive his past conduct was not only disposed to forget former injuries but to place him if his conduct should merit it on a footing with its most favoured allies.

The Vakeels though they acknowledged the liberality which had been shown in the modifications already made again contended for the restoration of Tonk Rampoor and the other places in its vicinity and the tribute of Junagarh all the arguments which had been used the day before were repeated. In answer to which Col. Malcolm informed them further discussion was only a loss of time as there could be no alteration admitted in the revised draft of the Treaty. Shaikh Habibullah asked what states were comprehended in the 5th article. Colonel Malcolm said all those with whom the British Government had entertained into defensive engagements. The Shaikh asked if the British Government had defensive engagements with the Raja of Jynaghar. Colonel Malcolm replied in the affirmative. The Shaikh said he hoped nevertheless that Jeswant Rao Holkar would be able to exact the tribute from that Chief. Its amount was he said considerable (3 lacs) and it had exclusively belonged to the Holkar family for a long period and a great disgrace would personally attach to Jeswant Rao Holkar if he resigned it. The British Government had he said conferred a great favour upon the Rajah of Jaipore by granting him its protection for so long a period and it could not assuredly hesitate

in abandoning its alliance with that Chief when the peace of India might be said to hinge upon its doing so, of what use he asked was the alliance with Jynaghur. The British Government exacted no tribute from the Raja and in no way seemed to derive much benefit from his friendship. There might perhaps, he added be objections to stating in the Treaty that the tribute of Jaipur was given up but his master would insist upon that stipulation which would be satisfied with a tacit acquiescence and an assurance being given that the Company would not interfere in favour of the Raja in the event of his being obliged to attack him. Jaipore was the only state (The Shaikh concluded) under the Company's protection upon whom Jeswant Rao Holkar had claims, the Rajahs of Machery and Bharatpur having been relatives of the family of Scindia.

Lieut-Colonel Malcolm expressed his astonishment that a man of Shaikh Habibullah's knowledge and experience should be so totally ignorant of the character of the British Government as to imagine for one moment that any considerations whatever could ever induce that state to compromise its honour or violate its faith. He could not be ignorant (Colonel Malcolm observed) that the English Government had obliged Dowlat Rao Scindia to resign all claims upon the Raja of Jaipore and he might rest satisfied that state would never conclude a treaty with his master which left him in possession of rights the exercise of which involved the recommencement of war or a failure in its engagements with another power, and as to the dishonourable expedient which he had proposed of settling this point by verbal agreement, it was altogether unsuited to the dignity and reputation of the British nation. Bala Ram observed that he knew well the English Government never failed in their engagements and that he was fully aware how useful it was to press a point of this nature. Scindia however he observed by resigning the Jaipore tribute had resigned nothing for though he no doubt collected from that state when he had possession of the person of Shah Allum it was on that ground alone, which he had given up when he ceded Hindostan, that he possessed any claims, the right of tribute from Jaipore resting exclusively with the family of Holkar as that from Jodhpore did with the family of Scindia but however heavy the loss might fall upon his master he could. Bala Ram observed have the consolation to think that it was caused by that firm adherence to good faith which characterized the Government with which he was now forming an alliance and the benefits of which he had now the prospect of participating in an equal degree with the other power in India.

Though this point was conceded the Vakeels continued obstinate with respect to the final cession of Tonk, Rampoor, etc., and the stipulation respecting the countries in the Deccan remaining in the possession of the English Government for 12 months after the peace was signed. On their deciding these points and could not be given up, Colonel Malcolm told them the negotiation was broken off and they rose to retire and actually went to another tent from which after some consultation with each other they returned and renewed the discussion but on finding however that Lieut-Colonel Malcolm firmly resisted every alteration they proposed they addressed Derenje and asked him if he was satisfied they had done every thing they could to obtain the most favourable terms for their master. He said he was. They then agreed to the Treaty as it stood and gave Lieut-Colonel Malcolm a copy signed by both Shaikh Habibullah and Bala Ram Sait and received from him one made out in Persian and English signed by the Colonel and confirmed by Lord Lake which on taking their leave they said they would themselves convey to Jeswant Rao Holkar whose ratification they had stipulated by the Treaty to obtain in three days. A letter from Lord Lake to Jeswant Rao Holkar was also given to the Vakeels to be delivered with the Treaty.

Minutes of a conference bet ren Lieut Colonel Malcolm and Bala Ram Sait and Shaikh Habibullah Vakeels from Jeswant Rao Holkar, held in Camp on the Banks of the Beyah river on the 21th of December 1805

Lieut Colonel Malcolm asked the Vakeels if they had brought the ratified treaty they replied generally that all would they had no doubt be settled to mutual satisfaction. On Colonel Malcolm repeating his original question Shaikh Habibullah remarked that the present was an important arrangement which included the complete termination of a war which had now unfortunately lasted two years and it was he said of consequence that all parties should be fully satisfied and he therefore trusted matters would not be precipitated. On being required to explain himself he stated that Colonel Malcolm had a ready reference to Lord Lake upon every question that occurred that their master was at a distance and that though he had vested them with full powers it was natural he should wish to exercise his judgment upon every point as his future interests were so deeply involved that they (the Vakeels) had explained every thing fully to the Master (who was most sincerely disposed to peace) and that he had directed them to make some further representation which he hoped would be heard before a final engagement was concluded. Lieut Colonel Malcolm replied that there was no objection to hear any thing they were directed to state but that it appeared to little purpose as Lord Lake was resolved to admit of no further alteration in the treaty which as they had been before informed had with the view of preventing delay been made as favourable for Jeswant Rao Holkar as it was possible. Shaikh Habibullah then commenced a long and apparently studied speech by observing that he was commanded by his master to make a full statement of the views and principles which had regulated his past conduct in life particularly as those had led him to engage in War with the British Government and he trusted that explanation would make it appear that instead of Jeswant Rao Holkar being a freebooter guided only by motives of avarice (as he was after represented) that his past cause had been directed by a just and legitimate ambition which though now obliged to abandon he could never be ashamed of having pursued.

Every one Shaikh Habibullah observed was informed of the nature of that combination by which the Mahratta nation first established it self in Hindostan and now for the efforts of the family of Holkar had contributed to effect that object and the consequent (?) those which was allotted to it in the revenues to be derived from that conquest. Fortune had he observed, enabled the late Madhjee Sindia to usurp in some degree the rights of that family in Hindostan and his successor Dowlat Rao Sindia had taken advantage of the death of Tukkojee Holkar and the inefficiency and youth of his legitimate descendants not only to confirm him self in that usurpation but to seize upon many of the other possessions of the family and Jeswant Rao Holkar who had been obliged to fly from Poona and was afterwards confined at Nagpur found at length released the family to which he belonged and of which he was the only efficient representative in the condition he had described and that Chief naturally became the exertor of its rights he early entered into a contest with Dowlat Rao Sindia to effect that object and that contest had continued with varied success till the commencement of the war between Sindia and the British Government when Jeswant Rao Holkar taking advantage of the anxiety of that Chief for his becoming a Minister of the combination against the English obliged Sindia to give up Khanderao the legitimate head of the Holkar family and to sign a treaty which was executed under the mediation of the Bhonsla and which fully recognised the rights of the Holkar family to a share in the revenues of Hindoostan. Before any combined plan could be arranged the British Government had defeated Sindia's armies in every quarter and had reduced

that Chief so low that he was forced to purchase peace by a cession of half his country Hindostan was among the cessions which he made but this act of Dowlat Rao Sindia, Shaikh Habibulla continued could never ibrogate the claims of the Holkar family upon that country and as Jeswant Rao Holkar was early satisfied that the British Government would not accede to the justice of his pretensions he proceeded to war with that state as the only means of obtaining that object to which the exertions of his life had been applied A first success, Shaikh Habibullah said, led Holkar to entertain hopes even beyond these with which he commenced the contest and he at one moment aspired to supreme power in India but reverses (which it was needless to recapitulate) had soon made him abandon this idea and he was now prepared to renounce all claims whatever on Hindostan and to be contented with his family possessions and indeed to owe both his future security and prosperity to the friendship of the British nation with whom he was now fully satisfied he had no power to contend The British Government, Shaikh Habibulla continued has settled the Government of the Peshwa, the Bhonsla and Dowlat Rao Sindia, all Jeswant Rao requires is that he should enjoy an equal share of their friendship and protection, that Chief meant hereafter to abstain from every act that could offend the British Nation and its allies and with all other states he should adopt such a policy as was suited to the occasion Jeswant Rao Holkar, the Shaikh said, had many points to settle with Dowlat Rao Sindia and he hoped these would be amicably arranged and if not his master was satisfied that the British Government would not support Sindia in withholding any of his countries or usurping any of his rights and he had spirit and strength enough to do himself justice The Bhonsla had, the Shaikh said, about ten years ago seized part of the Jamidar Khana of the Holkar family which Jeswant Rao Holkar meant to call upon him to restore, independently of the (portion missing after this)

Letter No. 7.—Edmonstone encloses a copy of the memorandum describing the activities of Jaswant Rao Holkar in the Punjab and how ultimately he was forced to sue for peace.

FROM—N B EDMONSTONE, SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,
TO—M ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

Fort William, the 11th March 1806

In continuation of the subject of my dispatch of the 17th December last I am further directed to transmit to you the enclosed copy of the Abstract of a memorandum, containing the 3rd part of the progress of Jeswant Rao Holkar

*Abstract of a memorandum of the progress of Jeswant Rao Holkar,
Part 3rd.*

Holkar having effected the passage of the River Sutledge moved on the 27th November, in a North Easterly direction to Russeh towards the hills. It was generally thought that he would proceed to Nuggerkote to pay his devotions at a celebrated place of worship there, and to establish an alliance with Raja Sansar Chand the Chief of the mountainous district, and a man of high character, and reputation

On the 29th Holkar reached Bejewarra near Hooshearpore in Sansar Chand's territories.

It appears that Holkar had entertained very sanguine hopes from the friendship of Sansar Chand to whom he had dispatched Vakeels in consequence of some encouragement which he had received upon his first entering the Punjab from that Chieftain through whose assistance he entertained hopes of expecting much and was at all events assured of finding a secure retreat that country by nature so difficult of access to an hostile army should he be driven to the last extremity

He was soon however deceived with respect to Sansar Chand's intentions who it would appear had never entertained any thoughts of entering into an alliance with him and accordingly rejected the propositions of his Vakeels as soon as made

Holkar in this dilemma dispatched Bhao Bhaskar one of his principal Sirdars to reconcile Ranjeet Singh then at Amritsar to the measure of his crossing the Beah should he be compelled to do so by the nearer advance of the British armies. In the interim however he appeared to have entertained serious thoughts of recrossing the Sutledge which plan he probably had in contemplation till he received intelligence of Lord Lake's arrival at Ludhiana on the banks of the river when this project was of course relinquished as too hazardous for execution

Bhao Bhaskar Holkar's Vakeel reached Amritsar on the 31st of December and though many objections were at first made by Ranjeet Singh to the propositions wherewith he was charged they appear to have been ultimately removed by the address of the Bhao, and a promise which he made to that Chief of granting him a subsidy of 20 lacs of rupees should he co-operate against the English. Though the principal Sikh Chiefs at this moment appeared to have embraced Holkar's cause their counsels continued irresolute and fluctuating and no decided plan of action seems to have been adopted

Holkar in the mean time alarmed by the approach of Lord Lake's Army proceeded to the Shree Govindpore Ghat by hasty marches and crossed the Beah river at that place without opposition on the 6th and 7th of December closely followed by the British Army. Lord Lake having with a view to drive Holkar to a still greater distance from the Company's possessions crossed with his Army over the river Sutledge on the 6th December. His Lordship was not without hopes of coming up with the enemy before he effected his passage of the Beah. Being however disappointed in this particular he took up a position on the South bank of that river at the distance of about thirty five miles from Amritsar and forty five from Ludhiana which whilst it secured his supplies was likely to inspire Ranjeet Singh with confidence to oppose Holkar or at all events to resist his solicitations for co-operation and assistance

Ranjeet Singh as much alarmed at finding that Holkar was now so close upon him and immediately made every exertion to collect his forces together. He also moved with such of his troops as had already assembled a few corps out of Amritsar where he encamped

On the 10th Holkar's army encamped at the distance of five coss from Amritsar and the same evening that Chief proceeded to the town slightly attended to claim the protection of Ranjeet Singh. Holkar at this interview declared his intention of immediately embracing the religion of the Sikhs if his prayer was complied with but at the same time informed the assembled Chieftains that should he be disappointed their conduct would drive him to the extremity of turning Mahomedan and throwing himself upon the

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protection of the Afghan Monarch. The assembly heard this extraordinary declaration with surprise and delight, and solemnly pledged themselves never to forsake him or abandon his cause.

In consequence of this meeting which seemed to indicate the probability of the junction of the Sikh forces with those of Holkar, in order to act against the British Army, Rajah Bhag Singh uncle of Ranjeet Singh then in the British Camp was dispatched to Amritsar by Lord Lake in order to warn his nephew against the fatal consequences which might result to him from adopting such a decided system of hostilities against the English Government.

Bhag Singh met with the greatest difficulties in the execution of this mission from the fanaticism of the priests and populace of Amritsar, the former of whom were anxious to secure to their religion so distinguished a proselyte as Jeswant Rao Holkar, and the latter had been already prepossessed against the English by the clamours which that Chieftain had industriously raised concerning their practice of slaughtering cows which he knew to be of a nature well calculated to work upon the religious prejudices of this ignorant and begotting people.

Bhagsingh however not discouraged by these circumstances nor the insults to which he was personally exposed from the fanaticism of the mob, patiently persevered in his expostulations for three days, at the end of which he succeeded in bringing Ranjeet Singh to a proper sense of his real interests.

It was settled by Bhag Singh that Holkar should be desired to quit Ranjeet Singh's territory immediately, and that as soon as he had evacuated it completely the English would do so likewise.

Holkar was now cut off from every advantage which he had promised himself in entering the Punjab, for at the same time that his cause was thus abandoned by Ranjeet Singh, the Vakeels which he had hitherto kept at the Court of Rajah Sansar Chand was ordered by that Chieftain to quit his Capital, in consequence of the mission of two native agents of respectability to his court by Lord Lake. The Rajah's conduct from the moment of their arrival was in the highest degree friendly and satisfactory, and he soon after deputed his Vizeer to the British Camp with certain proposals calculated to strengthen and confirm the alliance, between himself and the British Government.

In this situation of affairs Holkar opened a negotiation with Lord Lake through Bala Ram Seit and Shaikh Habibullah, who arrived in the British Camp for that purpose on the 20th December.

The negotiation was protracted to a considerable length by the various delays and evasions habitual to Mahrattas but a Treaty highly honorable and advantageous to the British Government was at length finally settled and His Lordship received the ratification thereof under Jeswant Rao Holkar's seal and signature upon the 6th January 1806.

A true copy

CHARLES PASLEY,

Captain.

Letter No 8—The Resident on the instructions from the Secretary to the Governor General communicated the third article of the treaty with Jeshwant Rao Holkar and persuaded the Peshwa's Dewan and the Dewan of Vinchoor Jagirdar to restore the territories south of the Taptec to the Holkar. The discussion that took place is summarised

FROM—COLONEL CLOSL RESIDENT AT POONA

TO—HIS GOVERNOR GENERAL

Poona the 18th March 1806.

Yesterday evening I procured a meeting with the Dewan in order to communicate to him for the Peshwa's information the instructions I had received from you through the Secretary to Government relative to the places which are to be restored to Jeshwant Rao Holkar agreeably to the 3rd Article of the Treaty of Peace

I called the attention of the Dewan to the memorandum which I had delivered in to the Durbar requesting that instructions might be sent to the Peshwa's principal servants in Khandesh to prepare him for delivering over the Pergunnah of Jalna to such person as should be authorized by Jeshwant Rao Holkar to receive it in charge and that as yet the only reply I had received to that memorandum was that it had been transmitted to His Highness the Peshwa. I then acquainted the Dewan that in consequence of instructions which I have received from the Governor General, I had forwarded directions to Colonel Wallace desiring him to deliver over the Fort of Jalna to such person as should arrive on the part of Jeshwant Rao Holkar to receive it in charge and as it was necessary that the territory annexed to that Fort and the districts adjoining the restitution of which was required by the Treaty of Peace should be restored to Holkar at the same time as the Fort of Jalna. I had recommended it to Colonel Wallace to request of Ballabah the Dewan of the Vinchoor Jaghiredar who had the revenue charge in Khandesh to send him a Vakeel to reside with him at Ahmednagar until the restitution should be completed that I had accordingly to express my wish, that His Highness's Government should give intimation of the above circumstances to Ballabah and at the same time to direct him to correspond with Colonel Wallace on the subject of the restitution, and to deliver over the pergunnah of Jalna at the same time that the Colonel should restore the Fort. The Dewan did not reply immediately to my request but went into a discourse to impress me with the effect which the conclusion of the Treaty of Peace with Jeshwant Rao Holkar had produced in the mind of the Peshwa. He spoke of His Highness's enmity against that Chieftain the grounds of that enmity the gratification which His Highness had hoped to derive from the result of the war and the disappointment he had now to sustain which by all accounts he said was so great as to have made a visible alteration in the state of His Highness's mind. As the observations of the Dewan were only general, I contented myself with replying that although the Peshwa might still find himself indisposed towards Jeshwant Rao Holkar yet I was confident that a little reflection would assure His Highness that he had every reason to be satisfied with the peace. That His Highness was about to return to his Capital, that on his arrival I should have the honour of paying my respects to him of hearing his sentiments and if necessary of demonstrating to him how much his Government should exult in the general pacification which gave security and repose, not less to the Deccan than to all Hindostan. That in respect to the point which gave occasion

to the present interview, it did not admit of delay and that I had accordingly to repeat my entreaty that the intimation and orders, which I had recommended might be dispatched to Balla without delay. In reply, the Dewan said that the memorandum which I had delivered in *specified the pergunnah* of Jalna only and that he concluded accordingly that the district only was required to be restored at present. I observed, that the memorandum showed that according to the Treaty, every place south of the Taptee belonging the Holkar family was to be restored with the exception of the Fort and pergunnah of Chandore, Amber, etc., and that the orders to Ballabah would of course be to that effect. The Dewan said that on this principle the pergunnah of Jalna was not the only territory to be given up, and then begged to know whether I had received a copy of the Treaty in Mirhatta or Persian as it might be written from the Governor-General, I answered not, but that I could accommodate the Durbar with a translation of the English Copy with which I had been officially furnished, and that I now have the pleasure of delivering the translation on the following day to Anand Rao, should he favour me with a visit. Anand Rao being present said that he would wait on me and I now repeated to the Dewan the necessity of the orders I had recommended being dispatched to Ballabah without loss of time, to which he replied, that on the morrow he should receive the translation of the Treaty from me and that then he would signify my application to the Peshwa. During this conversation the Dewan recurred occasionally to the feelings of regret which the Treaty had excited in His Highness's mind, but all his remarks on this point I constantly repelled by referring to the great objects attained by the Company's Allies, but particularly the Poona State, under the general pacification nothing more of consequence occurred and the interview closed.

This morning I was honoured with Mr. Secretary Edmonstone's dispatch of the 24th ultimo, containing your instructions for my guidance in the event of dissatisfaction being manifested by the Peshwa on account of the pacification concluded with Holkar and shortly afterwards I received a visit from Anand Rao according to promise. The translation of the Treaty was prepared and delivered to him and I again expressed my reliance that the Dewan would proceed immediately on the measure necessary for furnishing Ballabah, with the necessary orders respecting the restitution. Anand Rao replied, that the translation should be presented to the Dewan in the course of the day, but insinuated that the stipulations of the Treaty would be regarded by the Peshwa with the deepest concern. Finding that he grounded this notion chiefly on the principle that no agreement ought to have been made with Jeshwant Rao Holkar, as Kashi Rao Holkar was the head of the family, I judged it proper to avail myself of the course of reasoning contained in Mr. Edmonstone's dispatch before noticed. I pointed out to Anand Rao distinctly the cause of the war with Jeshwant Rao Holkar, contrasted it with the circumstances which led to the war with Sindia, and the Bhonsla, showed that the war with Holkar referred to his attack on the Rajah of Jaipore, the war with Sindia to the Treaty of Bassien brought it to notice that this latter war terminated before the other commenced, and that if Holkar had not brought on hostilities by an act of aggression, he would have possessed all the territory south of the Taptee which the Treaty allows him. That in this state of things His Highness could have no just ground to be dissatisfied with the result of war with Holkar. The pacification left him where he was at the conclusion of the Treaty of Bassien, and if he attacked the Rajah of Jaipore it did not follow that such aggression was to benefit the Poona State by adding to its territory although under actual circumstances the pacification with him gave additional security to the Poona State as the Treaty bound him in the observance of amity towards the British Government and all its allies. That as the Treaty with Jeshwant Rao Holkar left him where he was at

the conclusion of the Treaty of Bassien so it also left Kashi Rao Holkar where he was at the same period. That pacification was the natural result of war, that Jeshwant Rao Holkar alone had made war against the British Government, and that with him consequently had the peace been concluded. That this it was only for His Highness and His Highness's Ministers to advert to facts to satisfy themselves that the Poona State had not suffered but benefited by the Treaty with Holkar and that accordingly its stipulations should be regarded not with feelings of concern but of satisfaction and contentment. Anand Rao replied that His Highness's Ministers would always regard my statements as just and founded, that he would be particular in communicating all that I had stated to the Dewan, who however, could only convey my wishes to the Peshwa. In answer I said I trusted that the Dewan would lose no time in addressing His Highness in the manner which the occasion required and that I should be happy to receive intimation when the dispatch should be sent off.

Letter No. 9—Mercer reports that Sarji Rao Ghalgay was still in the camp of the Holkar, who had addressed Sindhia on the subject of his reception of Ghalka. He also reports that a part of the Army of the Sindhia was getting mutinous, owing to the arrears of their pay.

FROM—G. MERCER, RESIDENT WITH DOWLAT RAO SINDHIA.

TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL, FORT WILLIAM.

Camp near Hamirgarh, the 30th June 1806

I had the honour to address you on the 26th instant.

2. The accounts from Holkar's Camp of the 23rd instant state that Serjo Rao Ghautka continued in the Camp and had accompanied Holkar when he proceeded to meet Raja Mansingh. These Chiefs after a short conference on the road had each returned to his Camp.

3. Jeshwant Rao Holkar has addressed Sindia on the subject of his reception of Ghautka, assuring him that the latter had come to his Camp without his previous sanction but that his rank and relation to Sindia had induced him to receive Ghautka with every mark of respect. He at the same time strongly recommended Ghautka to Sindia's favour, the only person who can fully reconcile every subject of dispute between them and enable them when united to require their former power and influence in the Deccan. No answer has as yet I understand been returned to this letter, but Sindia has expressed himself alarmed at the consequence of the intimate connection which appears to have taken place between Serjee Rao and Holkar.

4. For these several days past the greatest part of the Reesallahdars of this army have assembled and kept confined to their tents. Bala Rao Bhau and Anna Sicca Navees on account of the arrears due to the troops. His Highness has endeavoured to gain over the principal Reesallahdars by promise, but no settlement has as yet taken place and as no person in the Durbar takes upon himself either the responsibility or authority of a Minister it is probable that the clamours for pay will continue frequent and difficult to appease.

Letter No. 10.—Mercer reports that he had an interview with the Sindhiâ at which he enquired about the letter, which the Sindhiâ was reported to have written to the Holkar requesting the latter to dispossess Bala Rao of the Fort of Ajmer and give it to Sarji Rao Ghatgay.

FROM—G MERCER, RESIDENT WITH DOWLAT RAO SINDHIA,

FR

—THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL, FORT WILLIAM

TO

Camp, 6 Coss West, from Mandulygarh, 12th July 1806

As I had the honour of addressing you on the 10th instant I received from the Resident at Delhi of which a copy is now enclosed

After a letter I was confident that no grounds existed for the communication Jeswant Rao Holkar had desired the news writer to make to Aston, I considered the receipt of this letter as a good opportunity which less this confidence to Dowlat Rao Sindia by acquainting His Mr Sess with the contents of it I accordingly sent a message in the to exp to the Durbar to inform His Highness that if he did not intend Highness the next day I should wait upon him Sindia replied that his evening depended on the fall of the Benas river, on our front and that march I not march he would be happy to see me

March I accordingly went to the Durbar yesterday evening After ex- it he di g to His Highness the purport of the communication made by

3 to Thakoordass for the purpose of being transmitted to Mr Seton's plaining that I had already evinced my entire reliance in His Highness's Holkar on of faithfully abiding by the terms of his engagements with the I adde Government by having immediately submitted to his perusal the resolut I had myself received from Serjee Rao Chautka, and by having Britished them in the manner he had desired, that the same confidence letters duced me to make the present communication as well as the wish answer His Highness should be aware of the means which might be used to had in unfounded suspicions and which could only be counteracted by a that H d candid disclosure of the attempts of this nature which might be create

fair an His Highness replied that he felt himself obliged both by the mode made ch I had made this communication and the motive which had led to

4 he had never written a letter of the purport mentioned to Jeswant in whi Holkar and that if Holkar could produce any document of this nature it that uld abide to be considered by the British Government as unworthy Rao H fidence, that he had an Army and was a soldier and never would he wo ge his own Government by an application of this nature to Holkar, of con well knew Ghautka, before my arrival in this Camp and must have dispar nformed that ne had lately confirmed the grant of the Province and that I f Ajmer to Jeswant Rao Bhow, which circumstances would of them- been render the supposed application to Holkar incredible, His Highness Fort d ded by assuring me of his firm resolution to abide by his friendly selves ements with the British Government

conclu I replied that I was fully aware of the circumstances mentioned by engage ghness and repeated my conviction in the sincerity of his declaration

5 I asked His Highness what his own sentiments were in regard to His Hr's views in receiving Serjee Rao, consulting with him, and promising I theris I had understood, the office of Buksee to his Army His Highness Holka d that from the communication I had made one object appeared to him, a repli

be an endeavour to create distrust and suspicion between him and the English Government but that Holkar's conduct was so uncertain that no conclusion could be drawn from it though in ten or twelve days his views and objects must be disclosed both to him, Sindia, and to me. I said that His Highness was perfectly right in regard to Holkar's object in making the communication to the news writer but that Holkar could hardly suppose that this object could be forwarded by his reception of Ghautka as the same assertion of His Highness's wishes to that effect might have been made by Holkar without his having actually received Ghautka. Bapponjee Sindia who was placed behind the Maharajah answered that two probable reasons might be given for the meeting of Holkar and Ghautka either that Ghautka had gone to Holkar of his own accord in the hopes of obtaining through his means the possession of Ajmer the grant of which he had frequently requested from His Highness without success or that as Serjee Rao had been for some time past intimately connected with Raja Man Singh of Jodhpore and was well acquainted with the circumstances of his Durbar and the state of his resources Holkar might have sent for him to assist in realizing his claim of tribute from Man Singh but that at all events their friendship was not of a nature likely to be lasting. I said this was sufficiently probable.

6 After some general conversation with the Officers of the Durbar present expressive of the stability and sincerity of the friendship which existed between the two states Anna Sicee Navees asked me whether I had received the letters from the Collectors in regard to the Jagheers which I had formerly mentioned. I replied I had not but that no injury would occur from this delay as it was your intention that the Jagheerdars should enjoy the revenues of the lands from the commencement of the Khareef Harvest. I soon afterwards took my leave.

TO—GEROME MFRICI R FRSOR RESIDENT WITH DOWLAT RAO SINDIA.

Sir

Having received a letter from Thakur Dass our news writer in the Camp of Jeswant Rao Holkar informing me that the latter had acquainted him and for the express purpose of being communicated to me that Dowlat Rao Sindia had written to him to request that he Holkar would dispose of Bala Rao of the Fort of Ajmer and deliver it up to Soorjee Rao Ghautka adding that in the course of eight or ten days he Holkar intended employing with the application. I think it my duty to transmit to you a copy of it together with a transcript of my reply that you may be enabled to institute such enquiries as you may deem expedient to satisfy yourself whether there is any foundation for the very extraordinary communication made by Holkar to Thakur Dass.

I have the honour to be
Sir

Your most obedient servant

A SETON

Delhi

The 30th July 1806

P S—You will observe from my reply to Thakoordass that I have not thought it expedient to take any notice in writing to Jeswant Rao Holkar, of the communication made by him to the former.

Letter No. 11.—This letter and the enclosures 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 discuss the merits of the case for the cession of certain territories claimed by the Holkar. The Resident at Delhi Mr. Seton and Mr. Malcolm point out that certain territories claimed by the Holkar fall outside the scope of the treaty concluded between the British and the Holkar, and certain other territories, which come within the scope of the treaty will be handed over according to the stipulations of the Treaty, that is, after 18 months have passed. The rumours of Holkar's designs for a renewal of war with the British are to be interpreted in the light of this correspondence and have little significance.

FROM—N B EDMONSTONE, SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,
TO—M ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

Fort William, the 2nd October 1806

Under the prevalence of the vague and contradictory reports which are no doubt industriously circulated at every court in India respecting the imaginary views and intentions of Jeswant Rao Holkar, the Hon'ble the Governor-General in Council deems it proper that you should be apprized of the light in which such reports are considered by this Government and of its sentiments with regard to that Chieftain. I am, therefore, directed to transmit to you for your information the enclosed documents as enumerated in the Margin (below)

The contents of these documents will enable you to regulate your language in the event of any impression being made by the prevailing reports at the Court at which you reside, and of their becoming a topic of conversation with His Highness, his Ministers or other persons, with whom you may have occasion to communicate

- No 1 Copy of a letter from Jeswant Rao Holkar, received 31st August
- No 2 Copy of a reply to the foregoing, dated the 6th September
- No 3 Copy of a letter to Jeswant Rao Holkar, from Lieut -Col Malcolm, dated the 6th September.
- No 4 Translation of a letter from Jeswant Rao Holkar, received 1st October
- No 5 Copy of the reply to the foregoing, dated the 2nd October
- No 6 Extract from a letter to the Resident at Delhi, dated the 14th September
- No 7 Extract from a letter to the Resident at Delhi, dated the 25th September

FROM—JESWANT RAO HOLKAR.
TO—N. B EDMONSTONE

Received 31st August

After conveying to you the expression of my desire for the honour of a personal interview, which like your kindness towards me, is boundless, I have the pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of your kind letter, informing me of your having received the communication of those necessary points, which I had stated to Mr. Archibald Seton, and I have derived the highest satisfaction from the obliging contents of that letter

My friend with respect to what you have written, with the pen of kindness on the subject of Seerjee Rao Ghautka by the favour of God the relations of mutual harmony and friendship have been established between me and the British Government in a manner which not only renders it unnecessary to say anything on that subject, but the progressive augmentation of the degree of our friendship is also manifest both to high and low

Previously to my receipt of your kind letter I had dismissed Seerjee Rao Ghautka as being a measure calculated to promote the satisfaction of the British Government. You will accordingly have been apprized of this circumstance both through the channel of the newspapers and from the communications of your agents

My friendly mind is in every respect disposed to promote the satisfaction of the British Government and you are also equally attentive to my wishes. However it is surprizing that Mr Seton has not yet adjusted those points which were stated in a paper which was transmitted to me by the Right Hon ble Lord Lake and by Colonel John Malcolm and that Mr Seton should still be awaiting the receipt of your orders. I therefore write with the pen of friendship to request that you will be pleased strictly to enjoin Mr Seton not to delay the arrangement of this business since there is nothing in that paper of such consequence to the British Government as to occasion delay or procrastination

Believing me to be ever anxious for accounts of your health always be pleased to gratify my friendly heart by kind letters

Further than the expression of my desire for the honour of a personal interview what more shall I say. There is yet a point however which is in the highest degree extraordinary. It is stipulated in the Treaty that my hereditary territory shall be restored to me from the day on which that Treaty was concluded. All doubts were wholly removed and I felt perfectly satisfied in my own mind that from the re-establishment of the foundations of mutual honour my wishes would be attained even in a greater extent

It is a subject of concern to me however that the restoration of my hereditary lands has been suspended. It is therefore necessary that you should write to Mr Seton on this subject that no further delay may be experienced in this business

For the rest I entertain great expectations of the favour of the British Government

Let an early answer be returned to this letter

A true translation

J MOCKTON

Private Secretary to Government

FROM—N B EDMONSTONE

TO—JFSWANT RAO HOLKAR

Written 6th September 1804

I have had the pleasure to receive your friendly letter in reply to mine

I am gratified by the expression of your desire to cultivate the existing relations of amity with the British Government. When both parties are so disposed mutual friendship must necessarily increase

You write that Mr Seton has not yet adjusted those points, which were stated in a paper, which was transmitted to you by the Right Hon'ble Lord Lake and Colonel J Malcolm

My friend, I am altogether uninformed of the paper to which you allude, neither are the Right Hon'ble Lord Lake or Colonel Malcolm, who are at present here, apprized of it. With regard to the application however, which you have repeatedly made to His Lordship, for certain Mohauls on the Doab you have been several times informed, by letters from His Lordship and Colonel Malcolm, that those applications could not be complied with. I have directed Colonel Malcolm, to write to you more particularly, upon this subject

You have further written that, it is stipulated in the Treaty that your hereditary territory shall be restored to you, but that the restoration of it has been suspended. My Friend, the following are the words of the Treaty "The Hon'ble Company agree, to deliver over immediately, to Jeswant Rao Holkar, such of the ancient possession of the Holkar family, in the Deccan, now in the occupation of the Hon'ble Company, as are situated south of the river Taptee, with the exception of the Fort, and Pergunnah of Chandore, the Pergunnahs of Amber and Seagham and the villages and Pergunnahs situated to the southward of the river Godavery, which will remain in the possession of the Hon'ble Company. The Hon'ble Company, however, in consideration of the respectability of the Holkar family, further engage that in the event of the conduct of Jeswant Rao Holkar being such as to satisfy that state, of his amicable and peaceable intentions, towards the British Government and its allies, it will, at the expiration of eighteen months from the date of this Treaty, restore to the family of Holkar, the Fort of Chandore, and its district, the pergunnahs of Amber and Seagham, and the districts formerly belonging to the Holkar family situated to the south of the Godavery."

In conformity to these express terms of Treaty, the Fort of Jalna, and such of the ancient possessions of the Holkar family in the Deccan, which were in the occupation of the Hon'ble Company, as are situated south of the Taptee, have been delivered over to your Officers. But satisfied of your desire to improve the existing friendship, with the British Government, the rest of the hereditary possessions of your family in the Deccan, will of course according to the terms of the Treaty be restored to you after the expiration of 18 months from the date of the Treaty

It is perfectly evident, therefore, that whatever was to be restored before the expiration of the term above-mentioned, has been restored and no claim whatever, exists on your part, against the British Government, for it is written in the 5th Article of the Treaty, "Jeswant Rao Holkar, hereby renounces all claims of every description, upon the British Government, and its allies."

The British Government, however, has not only done, all that was required by the Treaty, but much more, having voluntarily restored, the districts of Tonk, Ramporah, etc, which by the 2nd Article of the Treaty, you ceded to the Company. Government also yielded to your request for a Jaggeer, in favour of Harnath Dada and for the grant of the villages of Alumpore in Bundelkhund

Not one point connected with Treaty, remains unadjusted. Two trifling points, only mentioned by your Vakeels, which have no connection with the Treaty, were referred by the Right Hon'ble Lord Lake to this Government, and remain undecided. Those respecting Gomanjee Tanti's villages, and the five villages in Pergunnah Shekarpore, when the result of enquiries, which have been instituted upon those points shall be known, a decision will be passed.

In consequence of Lord Lake's return to the Presidency His Lordship informed you that Mr Seton would transmit any communications, you might desire to make to Government. His Lordship did not leave any points to be adjusted by Mr Seton, having previously answered every application which he received from you. No instructions therefore remain to be written to Mr Seton for the adjustment of any points.

I have replied in this letter to what you have written respecting the hereditary possessions of the family and I request you will consider the answers you have received from Lord Lake respecting the Mohauls in Hindostan to be the final answers of this Government.

For further particulars I refer you to Colonel Malcolm's letter.

A true copy

J MONCKTON

Persian Secretary to Government

Letter to Jeswant Rao Holkar from Lieut Colonel Malcolm

Written 6th September 1806.

My friend the Governor General has done me the honour to communicate a letter which he has received from you in which you state that it is surprising that Mr Seton has not yet adjusted those points which were stated in a paper which was transmitted to you by the Right Honble Lord Lake and Colonel Malcolm. I have informed the Governor General that I am entirely ignorant of the paper to which you allude. In all the letters which Lord Lake and I have addressed to you you were explicitly told that no points remained unadjusted that the British Government had not only performed every stipulation of the Treaty but had done more by granting you favours such as the cession of Took Rampeorah etc. to which you had no claim or pretensions under the conditions of the alliance.

You may perhaps allude in your letter to the Governor General to some one of the many papers which your Vakeels presented at different times to me respecting the restoration to you of certain Mohauls in Hindostan and the concessions of other points not stipulated in the Treaty but on inquiry of these Vakeels you will find that so far from ever giving them the least ground to believe such unreasonable requests would meet the attention of Government I uniformly told them that they could never be granted and that it was therefore highly improper to persist in making them.

The only points of all those the Vakeels brought forward which Lord Lake even consented to mention to the Governor General were two of a trifling nature. The one related to some villages claimed by Goomajee Tania and the other to five villages in the pergunnah of Shikarpore stated by your Vakeels to have been formerly appropriated to the charitable purpose maintaining the Tomb of Anand Bye the daughter of Malbar Rao Holkar. Both of these you were informed in my last letter to you from Hindostan, were referred to Government who will no doubt inform you through Mr Seton of their decision on those two points.

My friend the great personal regard with which you honour me and the warm interest I take in the persuance of the friendship which has been so happily established between you and the British Government makes it my duty to write to you with perfect freedom on all occasions and particularly on one that involves so seriously the continuance of harmony and good understanding as the present. The British Government you may rest assured will perform with the most scrupulous faith every condition of the Treaty it has entered into with you. You must not however expect that it will do more, and if you entertain a just sense of the great value of

the friendship you have formed with the Hon'ble Company, you will not listen to those designing men, who advise you to prefer requests which cannot be complied with, and the reiteration of which must infallibly produce doubt and distrust, instead of those sentiments of friendship and confidence with which you are now regarded by the British Government

A true copy

J MONCKTON,
Persian Secretary to Government

FROM-- JESWANT RAO HOLKAR

TO--LT COL J MALCOLM

Received, 1st October 1806.

After the usual form of address

If every hair were a tongue I could not adequately express the sense which I entertain of your sincere friendship and regard. May the almighty daily strengthen and increase these dispositions towards me

The practice of the insidious time-servers, how they have outwardly professed friendship towards you and afterwards, from their inconstant dispositions; manifested an opposite conduct, is too well-known to your friendly mind, to require my comment from me. I alone from the day of the establishment of peace and amity have abstained from the prosecution literally confined the foot of motion under the garment of friendship, from entering the plain of wordly ambition, prosecution of any projected of wordly ambition inconsistent with the obligations of friendship and have curbed the reins of my designs in conformity to your desire (literally of that observer of public faith)

I swear by God, that it is my fixed and sincere determination not to deviate one step from the path of sincerity and friendship, but to preserve and maintain the existing connection inviolate. It is strange that some of the Chiefs of my order should address letters to me containing various intimations which must be false, but, depending entirely on the friendship established with you, I place no reliance whatever on the words or actions of any of those time-serving chiefs above alluded to. But from the close friendship subsisting between us, I am apprehensive lest they should make deceitful representation in the same manner concerning me. As the hearts of the sincere, like mirrors reflect the truth you will have heard from report that confiding only in the mutual friendship subsisting between me and the British Government, I place no reliance whatever on the words and actions of any individual, and that the representations of my inconstant interested equals produce no impression of my friendly mind, as a proof, that friendship and harmony acquire daily strength, like children advancing to maturity, my mind constantly dwells on your amicable professions. I always anticipate from your friendship the gratification of my views and wishes, even in a greater degree than they have attained. But it is a subject of infinite concern and surprise to me that notwithstanding all this freindship, harmony and concord which subsist between me and the British Government, the release of the nineteen Mehauls which are my hereditary lands, should still be suspended. I know not why you should have thus forgotten me. I trust that contrary to what has past, you will be pleased to issue strict injunctions to Mr Archibald Seton directing that he will no longer delay the release of the Mahauls. The preservation of the existing amicable connection, being considered to be superior to all other considerations, let it be cherished. I only prefer requests to you in cases of necessity.

I trust that I shall be gratified by the auspicious receipt of a favourable answer to this letter

Dated in the Nagree Character 21th Janimaudee Oossauce (3th September)

True translation

J MONCKTON

Persian Secretary to Government

FROM—LT COL J MALCOLM
TO—JESWANT RAO HOLKAR

Written the 2nd October 1806

I have had the pleasure to receive your letter (recapitulate that received 1st October) The expressions of your friendship and regard and your disposition to cultivate and improve the relations of harmony are highly gratifying to my mind. How is it possible that I should entertain a doubt of the sincerity of declarations so solemn as those contained in your letter? But in truth, since the day that peace was concluded I have uniformly entertained the fullest confidence in your resolution faithfully to abide by the obligations of your engagements.

The disposition of this Government to maintain peace and amity with all the states and chiefs of India is too well known to require explanation. It is not possible that any one can really entertain a doubt of it. The confidence which you express in it is highly satisfactory and what I had reason to expect from you.

I know that there are persons who for self interested purposes desire and endeavour to excite doubts and suspicions in the minds of friends with a view to occasion disturbance. You have manifested your judgment as well as your friendship in disregarding the intimations of such persons.

In the same manner you may rest assured that the conduct of this Government will never be influenced by mere reports regarding the views and intentions of this or that state.

I repeat that I repose the fullest confidence in your declarations. I am most anxious to preserve with all the states of India the friendship which at present happily exists. The preservation of it depends entirely upon them. It cannot be impaired while they continue to abstain from acts of aggression against the British Government and its allies.

To make any additional professions of my disposition to maintain and improve the relations of amity would imply a supposition of doubt on your part which I am satisfied you do not and cannot entertain.

I had lately the pleasure of addressing you fully on the subject of the Mohauls in Hindostan. It is unnecessary therefore to add anything upon that subject on the present occasion.

A true copy

J MONCKTON

Persian Secretary to Government.

Extracts from a letter from the Secretary to Government in the Secret Department to the Resident at Delhi under date the 14th September 1806

Paragraph 8. Admitting even that Holkar is endeavouring to form an extensive combination such as you have described the Governor General in Council entertains very little apprehension of its accomplishment still probable does it appear to be that Holkar can be in a

condition, to undertake a war, against the British Government. These projects, are probably ascribed to him, partly under the impression, so generally entertained, of his turbulent, and restless disposition, partly from the effects, of that spirit of intrigue, which has invariably actuated him, and which he employs, as an instrument, for the support of his consequence and the maintenance of his military reputation, and Political ascendancy, and partly through the industry of those, who have an interest in reviving scenes of turbulence, and disorder. No obvious encouragement to the renewal of hostilities, is discernible in the condition, and relations of the states of Hindostan, and in the state of Holkar's military power, whilst any such encouragement is opposed, by the recent experience of our victories, and triumphs, and by the present prepared, and commanding position of our armies. These considerations, should preclude the admission of doubts, founded on the reiterated rumours, of Holkar's hostile projects, rumours, which may so confidently be traced, to other sources, than the actual formation of such projects. The credibility of such projects must be judged, not from the frequency of reports, but from a just estimate, of the existing means, of securing their success.

A true extract

N B EDMONSTONE,
Secretary to Government

Extracts from a letter from the Secretary to Government, in the Secret Department, to the Resident at Delhi, under date the 25th September 1806

2 Previously to any remarks on specific points of your dispatches, I am to state, some general observations regarding the character of intelligence, such as you have lately communicated to Government, and the light in which it ought to be considered. Some of those observations, however, have been anticipated by the concluding paragraphs of my letter of the 14th instant. It will not escape your penetration, that if the reports respecting Holkar's designs, are industriously circulated for the purposes therein described, the ultimate object of them is promoted, in proportion to the credit and importance assigned to them. It is even possible, that the actual prosecution of such reported designs may depend in a great degree, upon the effect, which the circulation of these rumours is found to produce. It becomes, therefore, highly important to form a correct estimate of the credit due to these reiterated reports. If the origin of them be such as from long experience, Government is disposed to ascribe to them, they derive no confirmation from the frequency with which they are repeated. Their probability must be judged, by a consideration of the motives to their fabrication, by a comprehensive view of the actual state of affairs, by a just sense of the superiority of the British power, by proper sentiment of public dignity and pride equally removed from presumption as from a spirit of alarm. To admit the supposition upon any other grounds, than those of the strongest probability, that Holkar really entertains the design, of the provoking the renewal of hostilities is to ascribe to that Chieftain, a degree of military ascendancy, and political importance, which by those who discern our apprehensions, will be considered capable of overawing the collective power, of the British Empire. The character of our past triumphs and of our established superiority and some plausible argument, may even be adduced to discredit the alleged distress of Holkar's condition, at the close of the war, if the Chieftain, who was stated to have fled, before a detachment of the British forces, to the extremity of the Punjab, and to have solicited and obtained the terms of dictated peace, as the alternative of his destruction,

should at the expiration of one year without any accession of territorial resources and under the pressure of pecuniary difficulties menace and alarm the British Government, with the power of his arms

3 These observations tend to them, not only the improbability of the hostile designs imputed to Holkar but especially the injurious consequences of giving credit to the rumours so constantly and industriously circulated (probably for the express purpose of ascertaining the extent of our apprehensions of the renewal of war) and to the speculations and opinions of those who have not the desire or the knowledge sufficient to enable them to exhibit a just view of the subject

4 It is to be remembered also that the Raja of Jyenagur has a peculiar interest (an interest which all must have who dread the depredations and exactions of Holkar) in endeavouring to produce a rupture between the British Government and Holkar. The propagation of reports regarding the hostility of Holkar's designs and the offer of an assignment on the Raja of Maihar (if that circumstance be true of which there is great reason to doubt) are obvious means of promoting that object. It is necessary therefore to be cautious of being deceived by rumours of that nature.

5 The Governor General in Council does not discover in all the reports which have been communicated to Government any grounds to suppose that Holkar entertains the desperate design of attacking the possessions of the British Government or its allies or of committing any other act of positive aggression but it is of importance to his interests that he should be considered as a power of sufficient magnitude to be capable of maintaining a contest with the British Government

6 It is consistent with the preceding observations that Holkar should by his proceedings exhibit the appearance of some great projected undertaking. The appearance of it is necessary to the support of his military credit among the states of India but independently of this consideration it is the practice almost invariable of the Marhattah Chieftains to place their armies in a state of equipment for the field immediately after the close of the rains and to undertake some military expedition. It has never been supposed that Holkar would be inclined to retire peaceably to his possessions such a course of conduct is inconsistent with the uniform habits of his life and the character of his mind. The augmentation of his troops notwithstanding his pecuniary distresses justifies no inference with regard to the magnitude of his projects. The relief of those distresses constitutes a more probable object of his views. It is impracticable to form any conclusive and satisfactory opinion with regard to the specific object of his designs and to conjecture an hypothesis there is no limit when applied to the wild and desultory counsels of that restless chieftain. The Governor General in Council however would not consider even the approach of his troops to the confines of our allies or the direction of his march through the territory of the independant Chiefs on the Westward of the Jumma to constitute a confirmation of his rumoured designs against the British Government or its allies. He may perhaps endeavour to ascertain to what extent he will be permitted to proceed in an invasion of the rights of the neighbouring Chieftains but it may be confidently believed that he will abstain from invading the rights and possessions of those whom he knows it is our duty and our resolution to defend

7 It is of essential importance with a view to preclude the agitation which in every point of view must prove injurious to the public interests that the opinions and the conduct of the primary authorities, both Civil

and Military which must ever materially influence the sentiments of the community at large, should be regulated by the considerations described in this dispatch, and that those authorities, should sedulously discountenance the apprehension of projects, such as are conjecturally, or designedly imputed to Holkar, and adverting to the numerous sources of vague, unfounded, and industrious reports, they should be slow to credit the existence of hostile projects, unsupported by the evidence, of established facts, or by a just proportion, between the supposed object and the visible means of its accomplishment

8 As Holkar must be apprized of the nature of the engagements subsisting between the British Government and the Raja of Bharatpore, and Maihar, it seems highly improbable, that he should demand the payment of tribute from either, on his own account, or on that of the Raja of Jainagar. It is still less probable that he should at once invade the territories of those Chieftains, at all events however, the mere demand of tribute, would not constitute an act of hostility on the part of Holkar. If he should actually prefer such a demand, it would merely be necessary to remind him of the nature of the existing engagements, and apprise him of the consequences of endeavouring to obtain the satisfaction of that unjust demand by measures of coercion. With reference to the rumoured connection between Holkar and the Rajas of Bharatpore and Maihar, I am directed to observe, that while those Chieftains entertain a confidence in our protection, it seems impossible to assign a reasonable motive for their forming a connection with Holkar. That they are impressed with that confidence, may be presumed from their replies to the late letters addressed to them by the Governor-General, translations of which are enclosed under the supposition, that you may not have received copies of them

10 I have been directed to state these observations, with a view to guard you against giving too easy a credit to the prevalent reports, reports which independently of their apparent want of any solid foundation, are referable to numerous sources of individual interest, and naturally prevail in an increased degree on the near approach of the season favourable to Military operations, and with a view also of directing your attention to the injurious consequences of any course of proceeding calculated to create unnecessary alarms

True extracts

N B EDMONSTONE,
Secretary to Government

Letter No 12 —Colonel Close in his enclosure reports that Khandu Pant, Holkar's agent in Poona, had invited him and laid certain complaints before him about the behaviour of Sindhia's servants in resisting the transfer of certain territories which belonged to the Holkar. He also wanted that certain places transferred to the Holkar by his treaty with the British were held by the Nizam and had not been given up. For this purpose Khandu Pant sought his intervention

FROM--COL B CLOSE, RESIDENT AT POONA,
TO--M ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

Poona, 20th October 1806

I have the honour to enclose for your information a copy of my last address No 20 to the Hon'ble the Governor-General, under date the 18th instant.

To

THE HONBLE SIR G H BARTLOW BART
GOVERNOR GENERAL

HONBLE SIR

Kundoo Punt, Jeswant Rao Holkar's Vakeel visited the Minister and afterwards His Highness the Peshwa, and was received on both occasions, with becoming civility and suitable marks of attention. On the 12th instant he called on me to intimate that he had reason to be satisfied with his reception at Poona. In the course of conversation he talked much of his reliance on my friendship, adverted to the happy footing which subsisted between the two Governments, and at length took occasion to express his hopes that with my assistance many objects which his master had in view would be accomplished. Expressions of this sort he repeated at different times and the only reply I gave was that he might assure himself that the British Government felt great satisfaction on the peace and friendship which had been established with his master, that with respect to himself as he had expressed a wish to visit Poona I had much pleasure in finding him pleased with all that had occurred since his arrival, that with regard to what he had adverted respecting his master's object I could only observe that the amicable footing which so happily subsisted between the two Governments rested on a treaty and that any objects referring to it would no doubt be readily adjusted. He afterwards introduced the subject of the places under the Nizam's Government which he had formerly claimed for his master agreeably to the Treaty of Peace and enquired whether they were to be soon restored. In reply I said I had expected to have had it in my power to give him an answer on that subject with less delay, that I had lost no time in addressing our Resident at Hyderabad respecting the claim and did not doubt but I should soon have an answer, that the places claimed I had reason to believe were under the management of Rajah Mahipat Ram who was in Berar, that he of course had been written to on the occasion and that the time requisite for a reply being had from him would account for the delay which had taken place, that I regretted that circumstances had not been more favourable to his receiving a speedy answer but assured myself that I should soon have the pleasure of communicating a full reply to his application. He then spoke of Bannajee Sait, Sindia's manager at Jaumgaum near Ahmednagar observing that he was unaccommodating in respect to some transactions which required adjustment between the Ryots of the districts under his charge and then of Holkar's villages and entreated that I would give him a letter to the above person containing a recommendation that he should observe a proper conduct. On this point I reminded him that Bannajee Sait was the servant of Sindia exclusively. That he was in no respect subject to the British Government, and that consequently I had no concern with him, that certainly it would be pleasing to me to see good humour and harmony subsist between the subjects of Holkar and Sindia, but that if points of difference arose between them they should be adjusted by a mutual reference to the two Governments. Nothing more of any consequence occurring during the visit.

In respect to the last request of Kundoo Punt it occurred to me that it may be difficult to prevent disputes between Sindia and Holkar's servants when the lands of the latter south of the Godavery shall be restored to his Government. The Talooks of those Chiefs will then be intermixed and though Sindia will be prevented by Treaty from bringing troops into his districts south of that above river no similar restriction will apply to Holkar.

I learn that Kuandoo Punt in view to obtain from Peshwa robes of investiture for the boy Khandy Rao and that at this time he is endeavouring to negotiate this point at the Durbar with the help of Ballabha Dewan of the Vinchoor Jagheerdar

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

B CLOSE,

Resident at Poona

Poona

The 18th October 1806

Letter No 13.—Edmonstone's letter has twelve enclosures which give an account of the disturbances in the Kotah pergunnah of Bundelkhand. It seems one Gulab Rao who had been posted at Malhar-ganj as the Agent of Jaswant Rao Holkar, led an army into the Company's territories and levied forced contributions. He wanted Colonel James Bailie the Agent to the Governor-General in Bundelkhand to vacate those territories, which he said had been assigned to him by the Holkar. Since he occupied a threatening position and took the offensive Colonel James counter-attacked and dispersed Gulab Rao's troops with great slaughter. The correspondence on this episode throws light on the unsettled state of affairs in Bundelkhand even after a peace treaty had been concluded with the Holkar

FROM—N B EDMONSTONE, SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

TO—M ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

Fort William, 21st October 1806

I am directed to transmit to you for your information the enclosed copy of a dispatch from the Agent of the Governor-General in Bundelkhand, dated the 11th instant, and a copy of the reply addressed to that officer on this date, by order of the Governor-General in Council, together with the copy of a further report from Captain Baillie under date the 14th instant

2 I am further directed to transmit to you the enclosed copy of a letter which the Governor-General has addressed to Jeswant Rao Holkar on the subject of the occurrences in Kotah described in the dispatches received from Captain Baillie

To

N B EDMONSTONE, ESQUIRE,

SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT

SIR,

I have the honour of transmitting to you, for the information of the Honourable the Governor-General in Council, the enclosed copies of letters dated yesterday and today, which were addressed by me to the Commanding Officer of the troops, together with a copy of a dispatch

from that officer to my address dated yesterday and a copy of a letter which I received at a later hour of last night from Colonel Sheppard Commanding at Kotah

2 I have further the honour of transmitting to you a copy and translation of an Arzee received yesterday from the Tahsildar of the Pergunnah of Kotah and a copy and translation of a dispatch which was issued under the seal and signature of Gulab Rao Pundit to the Choudrees and Kannon gos of the Pergunnah of Kotah and of which the original is in my possession.

3 The circumstances which are stated in the enclosed Arzee and confirmed by the tenor of the Dustuk issued by Gulab Rao to the Mofussul Revenue officers of Kotah appear to me to justify in the most ample manner the measures which were adopted by Colonel Sheppard though contrary to the letter of his instructions and I cannot entertain a doubt of the Honourable the Governor General's concurrence in the sentiments which I have deemed it to be my duty to convey on this occasion to the Commanding Officer of the troops

4 I cannot admit the supposition that the recent conduct of Gopal Rao so hostile to his own repeated promises and declarations and to the express tenor and contents of his Sunnuds from Maharajah Jeewan Rao which were submitted for my ocular inspection can have proceeded on the authority of Jeewan Rao or be attributed to any other motive than that which I have stated in my dispatch to Colonel Prole and under this impression I consider the result of Gopal Rao's incursion into Kotah as beneficial rather than injurious to the interests of the British Government in this province

5 The enclosed copy and translation of a letter which I have received this day from Koor Kunchun Geer affords a satisfactory proof of his being totally unconnected with Gulab Rao and of his resolution to avoid giving offence to the British Government in as far as the conduct of his discontented followers and relation and their unfortunate influence over his mind will admit of his acquiescence in the determination of the Government regarding the immediate dismissal of his Suvars (Sowars)

6 I see no reason to apprehend any serious evil from the adherence of the Honourable the Governor General in Council to his original resolution on the point and therefore I cannot presume to recommend the readmission of the Horsemen into our service though I originally suggested their continuance for a time upon grounds of political expedience which appeared to me to be worthy of consideration

7 I have genuine satisfaction in reporting to you the continued and entire tranquillity of the interior of the province of Bundelkhand and the confident hope which I entertain that this condition will not be altered in any material degree by the effects of the disturbances in Kotah whether these immediately subside or be protracted and extended by a circumstance which is still by no means in my contemplation the renewal of hostilities by Jeewan Rao

I have the honour to be

Sir

Your most obedient humble servant

Banda

J BAIL LIE

The 11th October 1806

A G G

To

LIEUTENANT COLONEL PROLE,
COMMANDING THE TROOPS IN BUNDELKHAND

SIR,

By accounts which I have this instant received from the Ameen of the Pergunnah of Kotah, it appears that Gulab Rao Pundit with a small body of predatory Horsemen has lately entered into the Pergunnah and plundered a few of the peaceable villages, in concert with the refractory Zamindars. It is stated however in the same account that no part of Kunchan Geer's Cavalry has yet been seen with Gulab Rao, and on the contrary that Kunchan Geer with his party has lately marched to a greater distance from the district of Kotah than that of his original encampment.

2 Under these circumstances, I have deemed it to be my duty to address a letter to Gulab Rao for the purpose of recalling to his recollection the terms of his declaration and promise which were made to me during his late visit at Banda and of warning him of the consequence of the necessary and just displeasure both of his master Jeswant Rao Holkar and of the British Government, in the case of his continuing to disturb the tranquillity of Kotah.

3 Though I am not informed of the exact strength of Colonel Sheppard's force, I should hope that his force will be sufficient to preclude the increase of the disturbances in Kotah till the arrival of the regular Battalion, but I shall still be anxious until I hear of the actual march of the Battalion from Soopah and of its rapid approach to the scene of the disturbances in question.

4 The instructions which I sent on a former occasion to Colonel Sheppard and of which if I mistake not a copy is already in your possession appear to me to contain all that is necessary on my part to be suggested at present for the guidance of Major Vanrennon. If anything further occurs to me hereafter I shall have the honour of suggesting it for your consideration.

Banda

The 10th October 1806

J BAILLIE,

A A G

To

CAPTAIN J BAILLIE,
A G G, BUNDELKHAND

SIR,

I am extremely concerned to inform you, that my Harcarrahs bring me the disastrous intelligence that Colonel Sheppard has attacked Gulab Rao, in consequence of his plundering one of our villages, that Gulab Rao was repulsed with the loss of 50 or 60 men and retired about 17 coss.

My Harcarra states that Gulab Rao came twice before to plunder the village of Chomere, but retired on the approach of Colonel Sheppard, that the third time he plundered the village which induced the Colonel to attack him. They also state that Gulab Rao sent message to Colonel Sheppard to quit Koonch, and that except that place where the Colonel is encamped the whole district is in favour of Holkar's men.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

Goorha

The 10th October 1806

G PROLE, Lieut-Colonel

10

LIEUT COLONEL PROLL

COMMANDING THE TROOPS IN BUNDELKHAND

SIR,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatch of yesterday by express and to transmit to you the enclosed copy of a letter which I received along the same time from Colonel Sheppard Commanding at Kotah

2 Colonel Sheppard has certainly departed from the letter of the instructions which I transmitted to him under date the 18th of June last and which were referred to in my dispatch of yesterday to your address but the circumstances which that officer has stated and which are still more explicitly detailed by the Tahsildar of the Pergunnah of Kotah in his Arzee dated the 5th instant appear to me to justify in the fullest manner the measures which Colonel Sheppard has adopted and to authorize confident expectation that his conduct will be received in the same light by the British Government and by Maha Rajah Jeswant Rao Holkar

3 At the same time I have reason to suppose that the present conduct of Gulab Rao has been induced by a desire on his own part to take advantage of the perturbed state of the district of Kotah for the purpose of obtaining plunder, and has proceeded without the knowledge or authority of Maha Rajah Jeswant Rao Holkar who if disposed to recommence hostilities against the British Government could scarcely have selected such an occasion and instrument as those in question for the first avowal of his hostile designs

4 Under these circumstances I am rather disposed to congratulate than to condole with you on the result of Gulab Rao's incursion into Kotah and of Colonel Sheppard's spirited exertions to repel it and I have no doubt that the success of those exertions followed by the advance of Regular Battalion to the frontier and by Gulab Rao's retreat to Alam-pore will be attended with the best effects towards the restoration of the general tranquillity of Kotah and the submission of the refractory Zamindars

5 I have great pleasure in informing you that Koor Kanchangeer has on this occasion afforded a satisfactory proof of his disposition to avoid giving additional offence to the British Government and has retired with the whole of his party to a village in the territory of Jhansi with the avowed intention of avoiding all further communication with Gulab Rao

I have the honour to be
Sir

Banda
The 11th October 1806

Your most obedient humble servant

J BAILLIE
A G G

To

CAPTAIN BAILLIE

GOVERNOR GENERAL'S AGENT

SIR

I have the honour to inform you that Gulab Rao a Chief of Holkar has collected together about 700 horses and 2000 Infantry in my neighbourhood committing daily depredation in the Pergunnah of Kooch, I

hitherto led defensive, yesterday his Cavalry came within my limits I attacked him, took a number of his horses and a stand of Colours a set of Kettle Drums and a camel mounted with Swivel and defeated him with a terrible slaughter followed him up close for 6 miles where he was dispersed in different directions and hope it will be some time before he has such another collection of plunderers

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Camp at Kooch
The 7th October 1806

Your most obedient humble servant,
J R SHEPPARD

FROM

RAM DAYAL, THE AMEEN AT KOTAH

Received on the 10th October 1806

On the 1th of October 1806, Gulab Rao Pundit encamped at Chumeere a village in the Elaka of Dutta and 3 cosses from Kotah, where he directed his Sowars to plunder and lay waste this pergunnah Accordingly his Sowars were armed and in readiness the whole of the night, and threatened on attack in the direction of Kotah Colonel Sheppard was likewise prepared and ready for actions

This morning the 5th Gulab Rao attacked Kheeree and Amlooree two villages belonging to Kotah, the Zamindars of which fled and took refuge in the fort of Deo Gaon, Gulab Rao surrounded the fort and sent in a message requiring the surrender of the Zamindars of Kheeree and Amlooree. The requisition not being complied with, Gulab Rao began to destroy the cultivation, and removing the grain of the merchants and Zamindars from the pits in which it was deposited forcibly carried it off. The Gurubunds of Deogaon seeing that their village was on the point of being plundered were reduced to the necessity of giving up the Zamindars upon whom they levied or contribution of 417 rupees on the security of the bankers, and detained several people as hostages for the payment of it. The Zamindars of Amlooree are still in confinement, and it is still unknown what sum will be exacted from them. Two hundred rupees have been collected from the village of Deo Gaon, and Gulab Rao has issued Dustucks at the rate of 5 rupees per diem over the whole of the pergunnah of Kotah. He has sent notice to the Chowdrees and Kanoongoes that if any of them attend the Kucheree of the Amil, he will put them to death and he has ordered his Suwars to seize and bring them to him whenever they can find them. He has intimated to all the Zamindars that if they do not voluntarily come in and pay to him the amount of the Kharif Harvest, he will every day surround in the same manner three or four of their villages, and forcibly levy the sum he requires.

Such is the detail of the disturbances in these quarters and their occurrence at this critical moment of the seed time and at the period of the collections leaves me without a remedy. If they continue for a week longer the pergunnah must be ruined. I have therefore deemed it necessary to represent them to you as Gulab Rao has directed his Sowars to seize and bring to him the Choudharies and Kanoongoes and the Amil, it is indispensable for me to have four or five hundred people in my service. I have accordingly entertained 200 and I request your permission to entertain 200 more. Self-preservation and the protection of the town is at this time necessary and I trust that a Battalion will soon arrive. Kanchangir has left the villages of Nudee Goon and encamped at Duhoka. Two days ago Colonel James received a letter by a Shootur Sowar from Gulab Rao.

to this effect "You must march from hence This Ilaka has been conferred upon me by Holkar to which Colonel James sent a suitable answer The letters which I received from Koor Kunchan Geer the Nabab Wyhooddin Khan and Adjoodeen Pursad khas kullum together with my answers to them are enclosed In this Arzee I shall obey whatever instructions you may be pleased to furnish me regarding the payment of the grain and the gun In the fort of Lnda A copy of Kunchan Geer's letter to Shiv Gir is also enclosed There is a considerable store of grain, Gun powder Leave and Matches in the Fort of Lnda and one gun weighing within a few seers of five maunds paying the amount of those stores will be of little consequence for they may be sold again for their full value The occupation of this fort is of much importance and it ought to be strongly garrisoned the fort of Anital and Belayan being contiguous to it

Kanchangir is now encamped at a distance of 7 cosses from Kotah Gulab Rao is encamped at Chumker in the Ilaka of Dutta 3 Coss from Kotah and meditates an attack upon Kotah Yesterday 200 Sowars from the Camp of Gulab Rao proceeded half a coss in the direction of Kotah where they halted and Colonel James with 200 Sowars Gun and two Comorians marched from Kotah and posted himself between the town and Gulab Rao It is now reported that Gulab Rao is advancing with the intention of giving battle and Colonel James is also prepared 400 Sowars have been detached by Gulab Rao towards the forts of Amlia and Belayan and are closely followed by Colonel James's Marcaras Their object appears to be to attack us from two or three different directions All the Gurrubunda are in league with Gulab Rao Colonel James has sent to me to guard all the avenues to the town for which purpose I have entertained 200 men Four or five hundred however are indispensably necessary and regular troops will I hope soon be detached The Hind letter which Gulab Rao address to the Choudharies and Kanoongoes is also enclosed I beg to be favoured with an immediate answer and your orders shall be implicitly obeyed

A true translation

J BAILLIE

The 5th October 1806

A. G. G

*Translation of a Dustuk issued in the Maratha language by Gulab Rao
17th Rujub corresponding with 1st October 1806*

Be it known to the Choudharies and Kanoongoes of Kotah that if they pay any part of the revenue of this year to the English it will not be allowed in account and therefore on their receipt of this order they must repair immediately to me and pay obedience to the Sircar

A true translation

J BAILLIE

A. G. G

FROM—KUAR KANCHAN GEER

Received the 11th October 1806.

Some time ago when I departed from Putara, with the determined resolution of proceeding to the Jageer after detaching the horsemen under the command of some one of the members of our family in quest of employment I was precluded by my numerous relations from carrying my resolution into effect. Helpless therefore and led away or rather dragged by my numerous relations and dependents I proceeded to the

village of Nuddie Gang and I selected this position distant and separated from the British Territory from an apprehension that the cultivation and the peasantry might be injured by my followers, and complaints be urged against me to you. Here I intended to wait for the return of your favour but Gulab Rao Pundit, the farmer of Mulhar Gunge, being obviously bent upon mischief, I was apprehensive that his improper conduct might be attributed partly to me, and produce the displeasure of the Government and therefore I have moved to the neighbourhood of Jnansi, where I shall still await the result of your assistance and returning kindness

The provision and Jaigcer which have been granted to the Maharajah are sufficient and liberal in the extreme. The mere subsistence of our numerous relations and dependents is all that remains to be provided, and I trust that after consideration of what has been lately written on this subject, you will exert yourself to accomplish our views. For my own part, I have never yet departed in thought or deed from the duties of submission and attachment, nor will I ever depart from them in any respect

The thresh-hold of the British power, I shall never quit while I have life, but the assistance and kindness of a benevolent friend like yourself, is indispensable to my future welfare

A true translation

J BAILLIE,
A. G. G.

TO—CAPTAIN BAILLIE, AGENT TO THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL, BUNDELKHAND

SIR,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatch under date the 11th instant

2 The circumstances of Gulab Rao Pundit's conduct, in entering the district of Koonch with a body of troops, and committing depredations in it, even close to the position of the detachment under Colonel Sheppard, appear to the Governor-General in Council entirely to justify the measure of repelling the invaders by force of arms. The Governor-General in Council, confidently trusts that this repulse will preclude a repetition of predatory incursions on the part of Gulab Rao

3 The disturbances in the district of Koonch, appear evidently to have been excited by Gulab Rao, in concert with some of the Zamindars, without authority from Holkar. The Governor-General in Council trusts that the arrival of the regular Battalion under the command of Captain Vanrennou, dispatched to Koonch, will at once restore tranquillity in that district, and maintain it in future and with that view, the Governor-General in Council is disposed to think, that it would be advisable to render Koonch a permanent station for one Battalion

4 Kooar Kunchan Geer's letter to your address, appears to the Governor-General in Council to afford a satisfactory proof that neither he nor his party had any concern in Gulab Rao's incursions into the district of Koonch and also, that Kooar Kunchan Geer entertains no views, inconsistent with the obligations which he owes to the British Government. He acknowledges that the provision granted by the British Government to Rajah Nerinder Geer, to himself and the principal connections of Himmat Bahadur, is in the highest degree liberal, but states (what may be credited)

that he is embarrassed by the friends and relations of the family who compose the Military party as they have received the sanction of the British Government to enter into the service of any of the native Chieftains they are probably waiting in their present position until the negotiations they have commenced with some of those Chieftains shall have been concluded

5 The Governor General in Council hopes it will have occurred to you to apprise Kodar Kanchan Geer of the object of dispatching a Battalion to Koonch with a view to preclude an apprehension which judging from past circumstances might possibly be instilled into his mind that the measure is directed to some purpose adverse to him and his party

6 The Governor General in Council entirely approves the tenor of your dispatch to Lieutenant Colonel Frole of the 11th instant

7 The Governor General in Council, having deemed it proper to address a letter to Holkar on the subject of the late transactions in Koonch I am directed to transmit to you for your information the enclosed copy of that letter

8 I am directed to add that the Governor General in Council has received repeated and satisfactory assurances from Holkar of his determination to adhere faithfully to the obligations of the Treaty of peace and has every reason to place confidence in those assurances

I have the honour to be
Sir

Your most obedient humble servant.

N B EDMONSTONE

Secretary to Government.

Fort William
The 1st October 1806

TO—JESWANT RAO HOLKAR

Written, 21st October 1806.

Gulab Rao the Agent whom you dispatched to receive charge of Mulhargunge etc has lately adopted an extraordinary line of conduct by claiming possession to the district of Koonch in Bundelkhand and by entering that district with a force of horse and foot and committing depredations within it For your information I send enclosed the copy of a Dustuck issued by Gulab Rao, no effort was made on the part of the detachment of troops stationed at Koonch to repel these depredations until Gulab Rao proceeded to plunder two villages close to the position of the Detachment which was then compelled to repulse Gulab Rao and expel his troops from the district

I know that in pursuing this unwarrantable conduct Gulab Rao has acted without your authority and I am satisfied therefore that when you are informed of it you will severely reprehend him and give him the most positive injunctions to refrain from repeating his predatory incursions into the territory belonging to the British Government and from presuming to assert an authority on the District of Koonch

A true copy

J ADAM

Dy Secy to Government.

TO—N B EDMONSTONE, ESQUIRE, SECRETARY TO THE
GOVERNMENT

SIR,

I have the honour of transmitting to you for the information of the Hon'ble the Governor-General in Council, the enclosed copy and translation of an Arzee received this day from the Tahsildar of the Purgunnah of Kotah, which conveys a fuller and a more particular detail, of the recent occurrences in that district, than any of the documents which I have hitherto transmitted to your office

2 I have no hesitation in repeating my belief, that the recent conduct and declaration of Gulab Rao, were totaliv unauthorized by Maha Rajah Jeswant Rao Holkar, and in expressing my confident expectation, that the defeat and expulsion of the marauders who were led by Gulab Rao into the district of Kotah and the measures which have followed that occurrence will be productive of the most beneficial effects towards the restoration of tranquillity in the district

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Banda :

J BAILLIE,

The 14th October 1806

A G G

FROM—THE TAHSILDAR OF KOONCH,

On the 5th of October 1806, I transmitted to you an Arzee containing a detail of the depredations committed by Gulab Rao on the villages of Koonch, which must have reached you On the evening of the 5th instant Gulab Rao sent a letter to the address of Colonel James, the contents of which are as follows :—

“The Pergunnah of Koonch has been assigned to me by Maharaja Jeswant Rao, who has lately demanded of me the cause of my not yet having established my Thannas in that Pergunnah and has enjoined me to do so without delay It is accordingly my intention to entertain a Lac of horse and foot in order to establish myself in Koonch unless you march from hence immediately Letters have also been addressed by the Maharajah to Sheo Ram Bhau and to the Nana requiring their aid and support in my favour I send copies of those letters for your perusal”

Colonel James on receiving this communication ordered the Hircarrah away and gave directions that 150 Sowars should be in readiness next morning at the usual post, and if they observed any hostile intention on the part of Gulab Rao, that they should on no account wait for further orders, but send intimation to him 150 Horse accordingly took up a position one coss distant from Koonch, soon after which Gulab Rao with a body of 800 horse, 1,000 foot and a Gun advanced in the direction of Koonch with the intention of giving battle, and halting at a small distance formed his Sowers into three divisions A horseman came to Colonel James with the information who on receiving it sent for me On my arrival at the Colonel's residence, I found that he had gone out, and I soon overtook him The Colonel said, “Although I have received orders to refrain from attacking Gulab Rao, yet as he has advanced with the determination of offering me battle I must do my duty.”

The Colonel's Sowars immediately made so vigorous a charge on the enemy and the Matchlockmen fired with such effect that numbers were killed and wounded. In the mean time Gulab Rao with 400 Sowars made an attack in the rear on the Sowars of Colonel James who were fully prepared to receive them and half of our Sowars were actually engaged with Gulab Rao's. Gulab Rao unable to withstand the charge, took to flight and was pursued closely and with great slaughter by our Sowars even beyond his original encampment. A Nukara and standard, 10 or 15 Horses of various sizes a camel with a swivel, and vast number of Matchlocks and Swords were captured and brought in and several horses without riders were running about the plain. On our side three or four were wounded and one killed on the side of the enemy numbers were killed and wounded and those who escaped fled with precipitation. The above is a detail of the occurrences of today whatever further occurs that be regularly communicated.

A person on the part of Raja of Sumptur from whom he has received a Khillat silver Bracelets and Gold earrings lately came into the fort of Busoof in the Elaka of Sumptur when he gave out that he was deputed by the Rajah to levy from Koonch the sum of 20 000 rupes.

Two or three of the neighbouring Zamindars in consequence seized and brought him to me today. I have this instant received intimation of the circumstance hereafter further particulars shall be transmitted on the subject. I have entertained 470 men without which number, I find it impracticable to carry on the duty.

A true translation

J WALCKOPE.

POONA COURT

Letter No. 1 —Sydenham reports his meeting with the Peshwa It is an interesting report throwing light on the sentiments of the Peshwa regarding Maratha chiefs.

FROM—T SYDENHAM, RESIDENT AT POONA.
TO—THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL

Poona, the 27th May 1805

I have the honour to acquaint your Excellency that the day before yesterday His Highness the Peshwa returned from Sisoor, and that yesterday His Highness invited me to an interview and repaired at the palace in Poona

2 I accordingly proceeded to the palace accompanied by Mr Gorran and Lieutenant Harvey and took the occasion of presenting Mr. Harvey to His Highness

3 In the morning of yesterday I received information from Anand Rao and Byajee Naique of the intention of His Highness and Chinnajee Appah to perform second marriage and that His Highness was desirous of procuring brides from the Karnatick That a confidential servant about His Highness's person was appointed to proceed to the Karnatick of the purpose of bringing some Brahmin children from the Karnatick, from which children His Highness and Chinnajee were to select their brides That it was probable the messenger would have occasion to enter the territories of the Company and the Raja of Mysore in the progress of his tour and that His Highness requested I would give the messenger suitable letter to the Dewan of the Raja of Mysore and the Superintending Collector of the ceded districts, together with the passports in the English and Mahrattah languages I therefore prepared these several papers before Anand Rao and Byajee Naique, and had the honour to presenting them in the evening to His Highness himself

4 The persons present at the interview exclusively of the gentlemen who accompanied me, were the Minister, Kishnajeew Bowanee, Anand Rao and Byajee Naique

5 The first part of the conversation which was occupied chiefly by mutual compliments and enquiries, was carried on between His Highness and myself through Anand Rao But the Peshwa suddenly broke through this fatiguing and inconvenient custom and addressed me in Hindustani, and received my replies in the same language

6 His Highness said that the several articles of the intelligence which I had sent to the ministers had been faithfully translated and communicated to him, that he was extremely rejoiced Everything had been settled at Bhurtpore in a manner so perfectly satisfactory, and that he laments the ungrateful faithless and perverse conduct of Dowlat Rao Sindia in entering into a war which must terminate in the total destruction of that Chieftain I replied that His Highness must be sensible that it was your Excellency's most anxious desire to maintain with Dowlat Rao Sindia the relations of friendship which had been established by the Treaty of Serjy-Anjangaon, and to extend to that Chieftain the support and assistance which had been promised by the subsequent Treaty of alliance That even when the conduct of Dowlat Rao Sindia was more than equivocal, when some of

his measures and movements were ostensibly indicative of hostility, Your Excellency still entertained a hope that Dowlat Rao Sindia might be made sensible of his error and might return to a proper sense of his obligations to the British Government. I observed that His Highness had very justly stigmatized the conduct of Dowlat Rao Sindia, as rash faithless and ungrateful. A circumstance had lately occurred which I was afraid might remove the possibility of an amicable arrangement with that Chieftain. I alluded to the union of Dowlat Rao Sindia with Jeswant Rao Holkar and shattered remains of his discomfited adherents. I need not offer any remark upon that extraordinary and monstrous proceeding. I could not venture to anticipate Your Excellency's decision upon so important an object as that of peace or war but His Highness must be convinced that Dowlat Rao Sindia had now avowedly and shamelessly violated all his engagements with the British Government and that the British Government could not stoop to the humiliating circumstances of witnessing its alliance, its engagements and the public repose of India so trifled with and exposed to the caprice of any one or of any combinations of the Chieftains of this country. I concluded by assuring His Highness that even in this peculiar juncture of affairs the conduct of the British Government would be marked by its characteristic principles of justice moderation and liberality.

7 His Highness then addressed me nearly in the following terms, as far as my recollection serves me. I will explain to you. Your paths and those of the Mahrattas are different. Your way is open and straight. Their is crooked and concealed. When you have a friend you are friendly when you have an enemy you show your enmity and destroy him. But some times your enmity ends in friendship. Their friendship always ends in enmity. I know you both. I have tried you both and I speak from what I have felt. Those men with turbans who were my servants sought my ruin. You who wear hats and are foreigners saved me from destruction and gave me back my throne. While they were here I was insulted and oppressed now that you are here I am at repose and do as I please. They took from their master crores of rupees and still asked more you have spent crores of rupees for a friend and demand no return. Between Sindia and Holkar this is the difference. Sindia is a weak foolish boy who is himself incapable of Government and is led by the advice of others. If his servants advise well he acts well. If his servants advise ill he acts ill. Great crimes are committed by his Government but he himself is faithless. Holkar is a bad man from his heart. He loves disorder he has repose. Whatever he does proceeds from himself. He is a monster who must be destroyed. Serjy Rao Ghautka is almost worse than Holkar. While these men have power there cannot be repose. Though they should have only a hundred men still they would excite disorder. These are the men who have brought Sindia into difficulties and will in the end ruin him. Let Lord Wellesley exterminate the guardians but let the child be preserved. The Company must give Sindia good Counsellors and must keep its army at Ujjain. All will then be quiet. I can have no friendship for Sindia for he was cruel to me and always insulted me but it was not his fault. This is what I think.

8 I requested the Peshwa to receive my respectful acknowledgements for the unreserved manner in which His Highness had done me the honour to communicate his thoughts. His sentiments and opinions would do credit to the wisest and best of princes. I should have great pleasure in communicating them to Lord Wellesley. It was very pleasing that the principle which had always directed and would always continue to direct the conduct of the British Government were so distinctly understood and so justly appreciated by the head of the Maharatta empire. I observed that no person could be so intimately acquainted with the characters and disposition of all the Mahratta Chieftains as His Highness and that I had no

doubt the Characters His Highness had so forcibly drawn of Dowlat Rao Sindia and Eshwant Rao Holkar were perfectly correct I said I believed Your Excellency was persuaded that many acts of Sindia's Government might be attributed to the advice of evil counsellors, and that all his late conduct might be traced to the desperate counsels of Serjee Rao Gautkee acting in concert with Eshwant Rao Holkar The culpable weakness of Dowlat Rao Sindia's character was doubtless very much to be lamented but the essential principles of Government and the established forms of all independant states, required that the sovereign should be held solely and exclusively responsible for the acts of his Government Authority always implied responsibility, and in the external relations between independant states, the Ministers of a Government were known only as the organs and instruments of the sovereign The choice of Ministers was therefore one of the most import and difficult duties of a prince, in as much as it involved either the prosperity and glory or the ruin and disgrace of every state I again observed that it was impossible for me to anticipate Your Excellency's final determination I could only assure His Highness, that whatever might be the provocation offered by Dowlat Rao Sindia, the British Government would adopt no measure, which was not called for by indispensable necessity and would not be justified upon acknowledged principles of sound policy, good faith and public honour

9 His Highness replied that no doubt every master must answer for the conduct of his servants, that the British Government had done all that was possible to reclaim Dowlat Rao Sindia and that if Sindia were ruined it was his own fault for following such evil counsels His Highness then made many enquiries about the numbers and conditions of Sindia's army I said I had no exact information of the numbers of his force, but that it was composed of men of desperate fortunes who assembled to live by plunder, and of the wreck of the troops of Holkar and his adherents His Highness asked whether Sindia had any regular Battalions I replied he had some Battalions which were called regular, but which were undisciplined, unofficered, and badly armed His Highness said they would all run away at the sight of Lord Lake's army I replied that was very probable, but if they had the means of flight, we had the means of pursuit, and as Mirknan was with Sindia he would be able to tell what chance there was in escaping from our cavalry

10 After some further desultory conversation, the repast was announced and we proceeded to the room in which it was prepared During the repast His Highness was extremely attentive to his guests, and very affable and agreeable in his conversation When he heard that Mr Harvey was connected with Mr Webbe His Highness spoke in the warmest terms of praise of distinguished public officer His Highness said he had spent his time so pleasantly at Saisoor, that he was extremely anxious to make his long intended excursion to Whay, and hoped there was nothing now to detain him at Poona I said that when I had taken the liberty to suggest to His Highness to remain at Poona my advice proceeded solely from considerations of policy, connected with the general state of affairs and the condition of the public mind at that time, and that His Highness had done me the honour to concur in the propriety of my suggestion At present I was not aware of any public objection to His Highness's indulging his wish to spend a few days at Whay, and if any circumstance of importance should occur during his absence, I would be careful to give His Highness the earliest intelligence of it through the Minister His Highness said he was made very happy by my acquiescence in his wishes and that he would return to Poona on the moment I thought his presence in the capital was necessary His Highness observed he did not intend to stay at

Was more than fifteen days and that after his return to Poona he would see me again at Dinner, and would then make a trip to the Beemah so as to perform his ablutions in that river before the approaching rains.

11 I am assured His Highness was very much pleased at my ready and cheerful acquiescence in his wishes and I hope it will serve to convince His Highness that my former advice was founded upon public considerations alone. His Highness has since ordered his Swiree to be prepared and will proceed to Whay unaccompanied by any of the public Ministers on Wednesday morning the 29th instant. It is proper for me to observe that His Highness's present intention of proceeding to Whay has impressed the inhabitants of Poona with a conviction that there is nothing to dread from the northward for the Mahrattas are very reluctant to admit the belief that combined forces of Holkar and Sindia are so contemptible. It is curious to observe the fluctuation of the public mind at a Mahratta capital. But a few days ago the intended excursion to Whay excited the most serious and general anxiety and alarm. The same step has now restored confidence to all descriptions of people.

12 When we had finished our repast we returned to the room in which we before had been sitting. His Highness still continued to be very talkative and spoke to me of his plans for the improvement of Poona by planting trees erecting enclosures building houses gardens etc. His Highness expressed desire to build a house in the English style and hoped I would give him a plan of one and assist him in the execution of it. I said His Highness might command my services. His Highness observed he had long been anxious to possess portraits of His Majesty and the Prince and of Your Excellency and Lord Lake and assured me that I could not perform a more acceptable service than to procure such pictures of the largest size and in the richest frames to be placed in the most conspicuous parts of his palace. I replied that I would address Your Excellency on the subject and had no doubt Your Excellency and Lord Lake would be gratified by such a proof of His Highness's personal regard and attachment with respect to the portraits of His Majesty and the Prince. Your Excellency alone was capable of procuring for His Highness such distinguished marks of the friendship of these illustrious personages. His Majesty and the Prince had every respect for the native princes of India and would be much gratified by hearing of the steady adherence of His Highness to the alliance with the British Government.

13 I was at last permitted to take my leave and was dismissed as I was received with every mark of attention and cordiality.

Letter No. 2—Sydenham reports the details of an-enquiry to detect the authors of a clandestine correspondence aimed at spreading false information about the state of affairs in the north and the relations between the British the Holkar and Sindhia. The enclosures speak for themselves and are important. As the letter is dated 15th June and addressed to Wellesley it should come earlier in the volume. One thing that should be noticed in particular in the enclosure No. 9 is that Holkar refers to the Maratha state as Empire and to himself as Māharajah Dheeraj Raj Rajeshwar.

FROM—T SYDENHAM RESIDENT AT POONA

TO—MARQUIS WELLESLEY GOVERNOR GENERAL

Poona the 15th June 1805

I have for some days past been engaged in investigating in concert with the Ministers of this Government a transaction which I am in hopes may lead to a discovery of the persons who spread abroad the reports which are

so highly injurious to the British Government, and who are engaged in a clandestine correspondence with the confederates in Hindostan it is probable that in the course of the investigation, many other interesting discoveries may be made, if the Ministers are willing to prosecute their enquiries in the manner which I have suggested to them

2 For some time past Candy Rao Rastiah who appears sincerely attached to the union and alliance of both Governments has suspected that a correspondence in itself of a most unwarrantable nature and which might become dangerous if not timely checked, has been carried on between Holkar and Sindia's Camp Poona and the southern countries Candy Rao Rastiah had likewise strong suspicions of the very person, who carried on this correspondence, but he was reluctant to disclose his suspicions until he should be possessed of the means of substantiating them This reluctance proceeded from some other reasons from a conviction that the Minister himself, if he did not encourage was at least not averse from the propagation of the reports which prevail through the city, and that the Minister might therefore exert his influence to prevent the disclosure and formal communication of such a transaction to the British Government Such at least were the reasons which Candy Rao; through an intermediate person stated to me, before he brought forward his accusations to the Peshwa, and in fact I was furnished with an account of the whole transaction before it was communicated to His Highness or the Minister

3 Early in this month, Candy Rao Rastiah succeeded in intercepting some letters from Moraba Phurkia to Baba Phurkia, which documents justified all Candy Rao's suspicions, not only of the transaction itself, but of the persons by whom that transaction was carried on

4 It would appear that a regular channel of clandestine correspondence was established from Holkar's and Sindia's Camps, to Poona, and to the Southern Countries by an agent at Meheysur, on the Nerbudda, and another at Perinda The letters from Perinda were sent to Poona either to Anand Rao Keysur, a Karkoon of Ragotim Rao's (The late Azim ool Omrah's Dewan) or to Moraba Phurkia, and from Perinda to Meritch, either to Viswas Rao Ghautky or to Baba Phurkia Moraba and Baba Phurkia continually corresponded between Poona and Meritch, and whatever might be the ultimate designs of these parties, it is, perhaps, fortunate, that the acknowledged Power of the British Government prevented those parties from injuring the British Government in any other way, than that of propagating the most absurd and extravagant report of the strength, resources, success and intentions of the Holkar and his adherents

5 Khande Rao Rastiah was so prudent as to communicate the interrupted papers to His Highness himself, who (being still at Whay) immediately sent them to the Minister with instructions to communicate them to me, to secure the person of Moraba Phurkia, and to be guided by my advice in any further steps which might appear necessary to the complete investigation of the whole transaction, and the detection of all the persons who were engaged in it

6 Moraba Phurkia, who resides at Chinchoor (a place about $4\frac{1}{2}$ Coss from Poona) was accordingly arrested and brought to Poona, and all his papers seized by the Karkoons of Khande Rao Rastiah

7 Agreeably to appointment, I waited on the Minister on the evening of the 7th June, to receive the communication of the intercepted papers which are literally translated for the notice of Your Excellency, and form an enclosure to this address Nos 1, 2, 3 and 4 were all in the handwriting

of Moraba Phurkia and were evidently addressed to the common agent of Moraba who lives in Poona and whose name is Madajee Punt. This Madhajee Punt was likewise secured and is confined at Chinchoor.

8 On the evening of the 8th instant, I again waited on the Minister to be present at the examination of Moraba Phurkia. That person was accordingly sent for and the following examination took place.

9 Moraba Phurkia was asked whether he corresponded on public matter with any person. He replied he never did. Whether he held any such communications with Baba Phurkia, He answered never. The Ministers all at the same time proceeded to oppress Moraba Phurkia with many useless trifling questions which tended to nothing and which Moraba Phurkia most dexterously evaded. I requested permission to put a few questions to him. I asked him what was his situation and condition under this Government. He replied that he was a subject of the Poona state, living at ease near the capital with no public concerns whatever. I asked whether he was not indebted for this to the interposition of the British Government and the mercy and the favour of the Peshwa. He said he was. I asked him whether he knew what Holkar had committed in this part of the Country. He replied he did that he had driven away the sovereign, that he had destroyed the country and pillaged the city, that he and his adherents had been guilty of every excess, and that he was an inveterate enemy of the Peshwa's and of the British Government. I asked whether he knew what Baba Phurkia had done. He said he did that he was one of Holkar's principal advisers and adherents. I asked him, whether he now considered Baba Phurkia to be an enemy or a friend of this state. He said assuredly an enemy. I asked him whether correspondence with such persons upon subjects not purely domestic was not highly criminal. He replied certainly, man risks his life by such proceedings. I then requested the Minister to exhibit the intercepted papers and to question Moraba Phurkia concerning them.

The letter (No. 1 in the enclosure) was first shown. He appeared surprised and confused. At first he boldly denied it but when urged owned to the handwriting. After some hesitation he expressed the concealed application of the proper names. He then remarked I am discovered and am guilty. He was then asked whether he had written any letters of the same kind. He swore very solemnly none. No. 2 was then produced. He confesses to be author of all of it except the last sentence. A Bombay Battalion alluding I conceive to the march of the 2nd Battalion 8th Regiment to Guzerat.

I observed to him this sentence follows the first part of the letter it not in your hand it must have been written by your order. He made no reply. I urged him to a distinct answer but he evaded and denied. He owned to No. 3 and No. 4.

No. 5 was found in the same covering, as No. 2 which evidently refers to an enclosed letter. No. 5 appears to be written by the Agent at Mehsur to Baba Phurkia and to have been sent through Anand Rao Keysur to Moraba Phurkia from him to be forwarded to Baba Phurkia. A copy of this letter has since been found in the handwriting of Anand Rao Keysur. However Moraba Phurkia absolutely denied ever having seen No. 5. He knows nothing of the contents nor of the persons by whom it is written or to whom it is addressed.

He was asked whether he had met Anand Rao Keysur clandestinely at Chinchoor. He said he knew nothing of him, and had no concerns with him. Cundy Rao Rastiah however pressed Phurkia so closely and proved the meeting so clearly that Phurkia at last confessed having met Anand Rao Keysur by night at Chinchoor.

Mooraba Phurkia then contended there was no harm in writing such letters as had been produced against him, that they contained merely the lazar reports and no evil was intended by writing those reports to his correspondents. He was asked why he had desired the letters to be destroyed. He answered, not with his usual dexterity, that they might bring him into difficulty.

He was asked to whom he wrote the letters? He said, perhaps to my Karkoon, Madajee Punt, but I scarcely recollect, perhaps they were to Anand Rao Keysur, but I cannot speak with certainty. The Minister said, we will confront Madajee Punt and Anand Rao with you, and they may deny the letters. Moroba coolly answered, then I must have written them to some other person.

Kistnaje Buwanie drew up a Mahratta declaration, which Moroba Phurkia readily signed. The first part of the declaration went merely to state, that Moroba Phurkia had written those letters, had met Anand Rao. But the Minister subjoined many long questions in writing opposite to which Moroba Phurkia wrote his answers. The Ministers have not yet furnished me with this paper, when they do, I shall lose no time in conveying a translation of it to Your Excellency. Moroba Phurkia was afterwards permitted to retire.

10 After Phurkia had withdrawn, the Minister told me, that the Peshwa was desirous of confining Phurkia immediately in a Hill Fort, that he had forfeited all claims to indulgence and favour, and that he was a most dangerous and disaffected person. I replied, that I thought Moroba Phurkia ought to be kept at Poona, until all his papers had been examined and the correspondence and extent of the intrigue completely traced and discovered. That it was very unlikely a person of such acknowledged dexterity in intrigue should embark on such a project with companions and that it was the duty of the Minister to avail himself of the present occasion to discover who were the friends and who the enemies of the state in Poona. Khande Rao Rastiah immediately observed, there are many people engaged with Moroba Phurkia, but time will be required to discover them. The Minister then agreed to the propriety of detaining Phurkia at Poona until we had completed our enquiries and investigations. I observed, that, I supposed every attention was paid to the comfort and convenience of Moroba Phurkia in his arrest. The Minister said, he has an excellent house, and does as he pleases in it. We only prevent him going abroad, or receiving visits. We then appointed the following evening (the 9th) for the examination of the papers which had been found in Phurkia's House at Chinchoor.

Translation of papers communicated to Captain T. Sydenham by the Minister at a Conference with him on the 7th June 1805

The Whay man is surrounded with difficulties. I understand what you have written on this subject, but it cannot have taken place. The report will not yet have reached the ears of the people. Write me all that occurs. You mention that a letter has come to B. That the one eyed of the nation, wrote in a rage, that on this event, some one set off from your quarter, all which I understand. Write fully on this head. Tear this letter after

persual People say here that peace has been made Inform me of the truth Every eye is turned towards him

A true translation

C. GOWAN

After compliments

I have sent a letter to my agent The man will give it I write to inform you of it Write me the news of that quarter These respects One Bombay Battalion

A true translation

C. GOWAN

This is informed authority whether affairs there be disastrous or in a good train God knows We hear that peace exists In your quarter Write me what you hear of it Sindia's territories will be again seized as I suppose This may be false Write me somehow about this It is unsafe to remain here

A true translation

C. GOWAN

After compliments

I hear that 12 Battalions have been engaged on this side of Delhi I hear that they have been defeated Thus is their strength put to the proof Nevertheless they are still there The report says there exists not a vestige of them Write me whatever you hear

A true translation

C. GOWAN

From Dada Krishna Sapre to Ramchander Baba dated month of Veisakh 15th day of increase

I have received your letter, and I forwarded it to the person As to the affairs here our supporter is near Bhurtpore Lately the English have made four or five attacks on Bhurtpore They were very severe of the English side Thousand of officers, Telingas and Hindustani troops were killed The English being defeated deserted their battalions (at?) Bhurtpore and retreated six or seven Coss in the direction of Agra Our army was close on their rear and will cut them up Our supporter will firmly establish the Hindoo faith and will reduce lacks to his authority To effect this he cares not for his life and courageously attacks every one His Horse in battle received 7 or 8 shots and fell but the hand of God preserved our supporter The Battalions of Ujjain had joined those of Bhurtpore and are also annihilated Lord Lake and all his officers were killed Our Army the Nawab Mir Khan and the Pindaries will enter the Doab cross the Jumna and establish themselves in the Company's territories Dowlat Rao went to Dhoulpore to meet our supporter They will quickly join or have already done so Jesht Sahib and Jeslal Singh are now near Mandosir Our supporter night and day exerts himself to establish his

authority By the aid of Shree Martand Maharaj the all powerful, this will be perfected He wished to arrest the Bastard, Koonjur Four former letters I forwarded to our supporter,

A true translation

C GOWAN

Translation of letters communicated to Captain Thomas Sydenham at a conference with the Minister on the 11th of June 1805

No 1. Moon of Chietra, 9th day of the Wane This is a copy in Aunund Rao's handwriting of No 5 of the intercepted correspondence of Moroba Phurkia, written by Dadoo Krishna Sapre to Ramchandra Baba from Mheysur dated month of Veisakh, 15th day of increase

No 2 Camp at Mel Kharoli Ghaut near Subulghur 5th, 8th Mohurum Our supporter is near the Chambul.

The English Vakeel has made this request 'That here 7 or 8 days as Colonel Close is coming from Nagpore to treat about peace, when he arrives, the dispute will be terminated Should this not be the case, act, then as you please Let us be guided by the Treaty concluded by the Blessed Patel Bawa acting mutually according to former friendship, and let us admit Holkar to our alliance By rash counsel, both states will suffer In consequence of this, we shall remain here 7 or 8 days On the 6th of the Moon, Raja Sree Serjy Rao Bapoo and Jotyajee Maunie, with some Pindaries, went to Bhurt pore to bring Holkar to the banks of the Chunbul, and effect an union when he will act as events may direct The English Vakeel here talks of Peace because the diminution of their power is manifest We shall see what is the will of God Our supporter had collected a great force We shall march whenever Bapoo advises it Bhurt pore is 40 Coss from hence

A true translation

C GOWAN

After compliments

No 3 Sindia and Holkar have met near Subulghur At Agra there are only three or four Battalions. It is very probable that they may enter into alliance At several places they say, that they have united already You will say, that is improbable, as the English Power evidently exists here The Nagpur account states their alliance, and the annihilation of every English person there The English here have received account of their junction and march to Narwar Meer Khan and the rest will quickly arrive here The English are encamped at Malkapore, but where are their troops to form a Camp Bhonsla has left Nagpur and has marched 7 or 8 Coss towards Gurra Mandla with his forces He has dismissed Close, who is gone to Mulkapur. Let your mind be at ease under the hand of God Every thing goes on prosperously The meeting of the two has taken place a month and a half If then the English have power why do not they take Jaumgaum and other places The cause is manifest Sreemant went yesterday to Whay. in fifteen days he will return, and then proceed to Pandharpur Gokla accompanies him Appa Saheb is here whomsoever a copy of this intelligence may reach, let him not think lightly of it

A true translation

C GOWAN

After Compliments.

No 4. I have sent copies of the letters. I am just informed by letters of the meeting of two. The remaining Battalions at Agra were beaten in an engagement and much plunder was obtained and not a vestige of them remains. Holkar requires that his former demands shall be complied with. Otherwise he refuses to make peace. Thus he has plainly told them. This is the report, but I am not certain. The troops of Nugger are gone to Malkapur. Shreemant's troops are not arrived but they will soon. Sindia is coming hither.

A true translation.

C GOWAN

V B — All the originals of these papers in the acknowledged handwriting of Anand Rao were found in Moraba Phurkia's bag of private papers.

No 1 is a copy of No 5 of the enclosure to my official address No 14.

No 2 Appears to be a letter sent to Anand Rao by way of Periuda the original of which might have gone to Baba Phurkia. No 3 and 4 are evidently letters to Moraba Phurkia from Anand Rao.

C GOWAN

*Translation of a letter from Jeswant Rao Holkar to Srdashiv Mankeshwar
After compliments*

Consider every thing here to be well, and write me accounts of your welfare. A long period has elapsed during which I have not had the pleasure of receiving a letter from you. Gratisfy me therefore by writing to me regularly.

You have no doubt heard all the intelligence of this quarter. My ancestors served our master (the Peshwa). With a firm intention of doing more than they did. I went to the Desh. But I could not carry my anxious wishes into effect. On the contrary he (our master) entertained unfavourable sentiments towards me. would place no confidence in me and went away to the sea shore. I in consequence returned to this quarter. The power of the enemy increases daily and it is their design under the cloak of fair assurances to take possession of our empire. On account of this I have hitherto opposed them and I have not wanted success. But as I have received no assistance the business has been prolonged.

My equal probably (Sindia) has also clearly perceived that the welfare of us all is involved in the preservation of the empire and that his own interests require it. Being convinced of this he has joined me. Let our master only be affected by the cement and let him send me his orders. We will then act with one mind and with united counsels and the enemy will be embarrassed and restrained. You are there in the presence. Make a representation to our master and let orders be sent to us both (Holkar and Sindia) according to good counsel. So that the honour to master and the servant may be preserved. I am only anxious to maintain my character what need I say more.

Dated the 10th Rubeesoolavowl or 8th June 1805

A true translation

E TRISSELL

Assistant to the Resident.

N B.—The seal of Holkar which is affixed to this letter contains the following inscription Sree Laxmee Nath, Shah Alam, Padshah Ghazee Ka Furzund Arzoomund, Bahader ool Moolk, Zubaulool Qmrah, Maharajah Dhee Raja, Raj Rajeshwar Jeswant Rao Holkar Soobahdar Aleejah Nusrutjung Bahadur

The signet of Jeswant Rao is affixed at the end of the letter

A true copy

Letter No 3.—This letter suggests that there was some intrigue going on between Moro Pant Phadke and one Anand Rao Keshar who was living at Poona after he retired from the service of Raja Raghottam Rao of Hyderabad. The nature of intrigue is not clear

FROM—T SYDENHAM, RESIDENT AT POONA,

TO—THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL, FORT WILLIAM

Poona, the 21st June 1805

I was prevented from waiting again upon the Minister till the evening of the 11th, when I arrived at the Minister's he read to me a note from Anand Rao Keysur to the following purport That Anand Rao Keysur had heard that the Minister had received some very injurious report respecting him and that he was therefore desirous of waiting upon the Minister to explain himself The minister told me, that he had given no reply to that note, but that he had sent for Anand Rao, whom he expected every moment

2 The Minister then communicated to me six papers, all in the handwriting of Anand Rao Keysur Four of these papers are literally translated for the notice of Your Excellency The other two have not yet been sent to me, although I have repeatedly asked for them Indeed, the four papers which are translated were not sent to me till the other evening, and I perceive considerable reluctance on the part of the Minister to enter fully with me into the investigation of the transaction, which Khande Rao Rahtia's vigilance has brought to light The course of this extraordinary reluctance, I hope to be able, on a future occasion, fully to explain to Your Excellency

3 Soon afterwards, Anand Rao Keysur came in, and an examination nearly of the same kind as that which passed at my last visit, then took place Anand Rao was extremely bold in denying all correspondence or communication with the Phurkia's or with any person whatever upon subjects not purely domestic However, when the letters were exhibited he betrayed some symptoms of surprize and confusion, and soon owned to the handwriting, and to the application of the proper names He afterwards recovered his confidence and answered all the Minister's questions with surprizing assurance When the Minister urged him to confess to whom the letters were addressed, or from whom received, Anand Rao stared the Minister full in the face, and said "why do you trouble me with questions, you know the transaction as well as I do" The Minister avoided Anand Rao's look, and made no reply, but changed the discourse to some other general points.

4. Krishinajee Bhawani then prepared a declaration, which Anand Rao signed and some questions were put in writing, opposite to which Anand Rao wrote his answers.

5. Anand Rao was next questioned respecting his secret meetings with Moroba Phurkiah and after much evasion at last he owned to his having met Phurkiah by night at Clinchoor.

6. I then addressed the following questions to Anand Rao which he answered with a confidence and in a tone bordering on insolence.

You live at Poona under the protection of the Peshwa's Government. I do. You were formerly in Ragotim Rao's service and held a public situation at this Durbar? I did. Do you at present hold any public or acknowledged situation at Poona? I have not, since Ragotim Rao's dismissal from office at Hyderabad. Why do you live at Poona? Because I prefer the place to any other. I am a Brahmin of the Mahratta nation and I have lived here fourteen years. You know the friendship and alliance which unites the three states? I do. You know who are the enemies of the three states? I do. You know that you have no right to hold any communications with the enemies of the three states? Assuredly I have no right. (Capt Sydenham) The letters which are now before you in your acknowledged handwriting, prove that you indulge in receiving and communicating intelligence which though false or at all events greatly exaggerated is calculated to encourage a most erroneous and dangerous notion of the power and resources of the enemies both of that state which you formerly served or the Government under whose immediate protection you are peaceably living. (Anand Rao) I only hear and write what reaches me from the Bazar there can be no harm in that. (Capt S) If no harm was intended will you give up the names of the persons from whom you received your intelligence? (A R) I got it from my friends. (Capt S) Who were these friends? (A R) I do not recollect. (Capt S) This will not do. Answer me distinctly. The communication what you call Bazar Report does not require such cautious secrecy. Will or will you not give up the authors of the intelligence? (A R) I assure you I do not remember who they were. (Capt S) You had recourse to falsehood, you now try evasion. Will you tell me to whom these letters were written? (A R) I do not remember. (Capt S) Shall I assist your memory? (A R) Perhaps you may know. (Capt S) Suppose we say Moroba Phurkiah? (A R) I do not think he was the person. (Capt S) Shall I prove it by calling Moroba Phurkiah here? (A R) He might now that I recollect, be the person to whom they were addressed but the circumstance was so trifling that it would readily escape my recollection. (Capt S) But you will not positively confess that they were written to him. (A R) I cannot speak positively of a transaction of which I have no distinct recollection. (Capt S) I have only one more question to put to you on which I require a positive answer. Did this correspondence proceed from yourself or are you the agent of another person? This question is of great importance to you, and therefore consider well before you answer me. There was considerable hesitation and evasion in replying to this question. At last Anand Rao said that it proceeded from himself.

7. Anand Rao was then permitted to retire and was desired to wait in a lower apartment of the Minister's House until the Minister had spoken to me.

8. After Anand Rao had withdrawn the Minister told me that Anand Rao sent off most of his effects and that it is probable he would abscond without his person were secured.

9. I replied, that as Anand Rao was evidently implicated in the transaction, which it was our duty to investigate in the fullest manner, and as the flight of Anand Rao might prevent our arriving at the source, and our discovering the whole extent of the transaction, I thought it would be prudent to secure his person until we had completed our enquiries.

10. The Minister said, that he was afraid of offending the Nizam's Government by placing a guard over a person who was formerly a servant of that Government. I replied, that Anand Rao was not accredited by this court in any public situation, and that therefore he was subject to be placed in restraint if he should excite the suspicions of the state under whose protection he lived. That the Government of the Soubahdar of the Deccan would be equally affected with that of the Peshwa, by the successful result of any intrigue with the common enemies of both Governments, and that I did not conceive the present Government of the Soubahdar could feel the slightest offence at the Peshwa's taking any measures which the security and welfare of the state might demand, in restraining the person of a man who was implicated in an unjustifiable and dangerous transaction, and who was no longer in the service of the Soubahdar's Government.

11. The Minister then asked me what was the nature of the restraint which I thought ought to be imposed upon Anand Rao. I replied, I thought it would be sufficient to station a Karkoon, with three or four chokidars, in the house of Anand Rao, so as to prevent his absconding, or his holding any communication with strangers, but that he might not be subjected to any other kind of inconvenience. The Minister hinted at the custom of making a general seizure of all Anand Rao's effects, on the pretence of searching his papers. I told him, that, as Anand Rao appears to be no Novul (?) in intrigue, I believed the Minister would find it difficult to get at his secret papers and that his personal property should be held sacred. The Minister promised that none of property should be seized, and that Anand Rao should not be subjected to any unnecessary inconvenience or restraint.

12. I then told the Minister, that I would immediately intimate to the Resident at Hyderabad the step which the Minister had thought it necessary to take, with regard to Anand Rao, and that I was assured the Government of Hyderabad would have no grounds of objection to it.

13. I shall not detain Your Excellency with any observations upon the subject of this and my former address. The transaction has already led to some very extraordinary communications to me, which I do not wish to submit to Your Excellency until I shall have prosecuted my enquiries for the purpose of forming a more decisive judgment on the nature of the communications which have reached me.

Letter No 4 —Reports the information he had come by regarding a correspondence between the Minister Mankeshwar, Anand Rao Keysur, Moraba Fadke and others in Poona and the Holkar, Sindhia, etc, aimed at the subversion of the British Ascendancy. The enclosures are suggestive of the intentions of the persons concerned though in certain matters misleading. They throw light on the attitude of some of the leading men in Maharashtra towards the British ascendancy.

FROM—T SYDENHAM, RESIDENT AT POONA,
TO—THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL

Poona, the 1st July 1805

In my last address to your Excellency I took occasion to observe the reluctance with which the Minister assisted me in the prosecution of my enquiring into the nature and extent of the correspondence which has been

brought to light by the vigilance of Khande Rao Rashtiah. I wish that it was in my power to assure Your Excellency that this reluctance proceeded from that remissness indifference and inattention to business which characterize the Minister's conduct in all affairs of public importance. But I must confess that from what I have heard what I have seen and what I know of the Minister's character and disposition I am afraid that the extraordinary reluctance on the part of the Minister in carrying on the further investigation of this correspondence proceeds from an apprehension that he himself may be implicated in the same charges which have been adduced against Moroha Phurkia and Anand Rao Kaysur. You Excellency will readily conceive that I am very guarded in suffering my mind to receive such unfavourable impressions and that I would not wantonly or needlessly indulge suspicions of so serious a nature against a person filling the high and confidential situation held by Sada Rao Mankeshwar under this Government.

2 It has become my duty to lay before Your Excellency in detail the various causes which tend to corroborate the impression which I have received from the private intelligence of the Minister's sinister conduct and of his total disinclination to cherish and improve that connection with the British Government on which the security repose and prosperity of this state exclusively depend.

3 It is almost impossible to any court and particularly at Mahratta Court to substantiate private intelligence but I have a firm conviction that I was not misinformed on the nature of Maunkeshwar's conduct at Bunashwar. I had hoped and I expressed that hope to Your Excellency that Mankeshwar was sufficiently alarmed at what occurred on the occasion and sufficiently convinced of the futility and danger of indulging his inveterate habits of intrigue to prevent him from repeating such conduct as had excited very well founded suspicions in my mind and had nearly produced a formal protest and remonstrance on my part to the Peshwa which might have been followed by unpleasant consequences to the Minister. But the temerity of a Mahratta is as remarkable as his insincerity and it appears to me that Mankeshwar yields to none of his bretheren in any one of the qualities of the national character.

4 The whole tenour of my own and of many of Colonel Close's dispatches must have convinced Your Excellency of the culpable inattention of Mankeshwar to the promotion of every object connected with the combined interests of the two Governments or if it were more correctly stated to every object connected with the interests of the Peshwa's Government which may have been recommended to his attention by the British Resident.

5 But attributing this indifference and neglect to the true interests of the state to either the indolence or incapacity of the Minister there is another notorious circumstance in the conduct of the Minister which is totally irreconcilable with his constant expressions of attachment to the combined interests of both states and of his desire to obtain the confidence and favourable opinion of the British Government.

6 The circumstance to which I allude is the Minister's prosecution of every person who has any connection with the British Government and who is recommended to his notice and consideration by the British Resident.

7 It is generally unnecessary for the Resident at this Court to trouble Your Excellency with the variety of trifling complaints claims and pretensions which from the nature of our present connection with the Poona state it is necessary for the Resident to convey to the Minister of the Government. But I am assured Your Excellency will be concerned to hear

that almost invariably it is not in the power of the Resident either by entreaty argument or remonstrance, to obtain any redress or satisfaction for the parties whose grievances or injuries he may have laid before the Minister. There are at present two or three causes of just and acknowledged complaints in the same unsettled state, to the infinite injury of the parties concerned, as when Colonel Close first conveyed them to the Minister

8 Since my arrival at Poona I have had occasion repeatedly to urge the Minister to do away acts of severe and unmerited oppressions towards the dependants of Amrut Rao, towards Dhonde Punt, (the Killedar of Logur), the family and the garrison of the Poorunder, but my remonstrance and entreaties have not in one instance succeeded

9 Your Excellency will have noticed the indifference and inattention shown by the Minister, the evasions and delays practised by him in providing for the expenses of the different quotas of troops commanded by the Jagherdars of Vinchore, Gocklah and Appa Dessaye, and as those commanders have repeatedly and unequivocally avowed to me, because they are friends of the Company. With respect to Appah Dessaye, I beg leave to advert to my two dispatches of the 17th and 20th June to Colonel Close, which convict the Minister of either the most culpable inattention or of an act which one would be unwilling hastily to attribute even to Mankeshwar. Whether he directed, or secretly encouraged the acts of the Sirsoobah or not, it is certain that Appah Dessaye has received such an impression on his mind that were he not restrained by the fear of losing our good opinion and support, he would instantly retaliate upon the Sirsoobah, and lay waste the whole country under the management of that officer. It would be impossible to say what of the Southern Chieftains might take part in such a contest. At all events a civil and intestine war which would revive all the ancient friends and animosities of the Southern Chieftains, which would be attended with the immediate destruction of all the Peshwa's possessions in that quarter and which might ultimately require the active operations of a large British Force to put an end to such a war, would have been produced by the conduct of Mankeshwar alone, having provoked to extremity either by aggression or injustice a Chieftain who is disposed to act faithfully and cheerfully in the service of the state

10 The same reflections occur in viewing the probable consequences of the arbitrary removal from office of Khande Rao Rashtiah. That officer if driven to extremities might hold the countries under his management in open rebellion against the Peshwa's Government, it would be impossible for the Peshwa's troops ever to drive him out from the immense fortresses and strong fortresses of the Western Ghats and the Peshwa could only recover the possession of the undisturbed, and most productive part of his territories by the severe exertions of a large British Force, completely equipped for the heavy operations of continued sieges

11 I am unwilling to occupy more of Your Excellency's time on these distressing subjects. I trust that I have summarily stated causes sufficient to justify my conviction that the Minister is not disposed to cultivate, with proper cordiality and zeal, that connection with the British Government which he acknowledges to be necessary to the true interests of this state. The same statement will likewise bear me out in my suspicions that the Minister may be adverse to the full and faithful discharge of the engagements of the alliance, and that he may be capable of entertaining designs and prosecuting intrigues inconsistent with the obligations of honour good faith and sound policy

12 I do not think it necessary to dwell upon the general character and disposition of the Minister, not to carry Your Excellency back to a review of the Minister's conduct previously to and after the conclusion of the treaty of Bassien though unquestionably such a retrospect must tend to justify and corroborate that unfavourable impression which I have received from the whole tenor of my public communication at this Court since I have been honoured with the temporary charge of the duties of the Residency

13 It appears to me to be necessary to carry along with me the general impression which I have received from the public conduct and acts and the known character and disposition of the Minister in judging of the degree of credibility which ought to be attached to the private information which I obtain of his conduct and concealed designs. If his public conduct, and the designs which are attributed to him, were at variance I should naturally form opinion of his real disposition from his public conduct alone. If I found in my communications with the Minister that he was open and candid that he listened to my suggestions with attention that he was zealous and active in the promotion of every object connected with the interests of this state that he seemed disposed to cultivate and promote the connection happily subsisting between the two Governments I should attribute the private intelligence which reaches me to the malice and enmity of disappointed and disaffected persons whose object was not to do us good but to do him harm. Unfortunately the public acts and concealed designs attributed to the Minister only serve to confirm and corroborate each other his public acts compel me to give credit to his supposed designs his supposed designs afford some explanation of his public acts

14 I now proceed to report to Your Excellency the further steps which I have taken to prosecute my enquiries into the extent of the clandestine correspondence and shall afterwards beg to state the result of those enquiries with such observations as may tend to assist Your Excellency's final judgment upon the nature of the correspondence itself and that upon the designs of the persons who have been proved or who may be supposed to be implicated in carrying on that correspondence

15 To my official address No 14 I observed that Khande Rao Rashtiah had not communicated the intercepted papers in the first instance to the Minister lest they should have been withheld from the light and the whole transaction passed in silence. Soon after the seizure of Morabai Phurkiah's papers at Chinchore Khande Rao Rashtiah sent a private message to me the substance of which is preserved in the enclosure No 1 of this dispatch. It might indeed be naturally concluded that all the papers had not been communicated to me for it could scarcely be supposed but that many interesting papers from Babai Phurkiah should have been found upon Morabai Phurkiah which might have enabled me to trace the correspondence into the southern countries. As the fact of a direct and almost open correspondence between Holkar and Scrymgeour Rao Gautkey and the Patwardhar family is well established and indeed notorious it would have been highly interesting to procure some papers from Baba Phurkiah to enable us to judge with some confidence on the reports of the supposed motives and designs of the late movements and proceedings of Chintaman Rao which appear to have been directed merely to and which have certainly terminated in a predatory (Moolukgeeree) expedition against the possessions of his neighbours. But leaving such conjectures aside the information which proceeded from such a man as Khande Rao Rashtiah was certainly deserving of consideration and appeared to suggest the policy of my endeavouring to press my enquiries upon Mukeshwar in such a manner as might lead to

the conviction of his having withheld important documents from me, without giving rise to suspicions that my information proceeded from Khande Rao Rastiah. It was therefore my determination to endeavour to bring that branch of my enquiries to some satisfactory result, provided it could be accomplished without endangering the personal safety of Khande Rao.

16 On the 22nd June I received a private message from Anand Rao Keysur, of which I made a memorandum and that memorandum together with the answer which I directed to be given to Anand Rao will be found in the enclosure No 2 and are submitted to Your Excellency's notice.

17 If the assertions of Anand Rao Keysur could be credited, Mankeshwar would appear to be concerned in the transaction, at least to have known the existence of a most unwarrantable correspondence without communicating the circumstance to the British Representative or without adopting any one measure to restrain or to put an end to a proceeding which is certainly highly improper in its nature, and were not the British Government too powerful to be affected by petty intrigue, brought with serious danger in its consequences. Whatever might be the general impression on my mind, I should assuredly be extremely reluctant to suppose that Mankeshwar could be guilty of taking an active part in a treasonable correspondence and would not encourage such a supposition except on unquestionable and convincing documents, but I have found the Minister culpably inattentive to the propagation of rumours highly injurious to the character of the British Government and extremely adverse to the repose of this state. I can readily imagine that the Minister was by no means ignorant of the existence of such a correspondence as has been lately detected, that he might rather encourage than restrain it, that he knew the persons by whom it was conducted, and that he was not averse from receiving the intelligence which it procured. Such conduct, if not treacherous is assuredly very improper and impolitic, and it may be easily concluded that a man, who does not openly restrain may secretly encourage, a correspondence of which it was his first duty to detect and punish the conductors. It was not therefore in my power to refuse all credit to the bold assertions of Anand Rao, though it is evident that a man of such character, who had been detected in improper proceedings and might consider himself at the mercy of the British Government would be anxious to transfer his villainies to another person, would not be very scrupulous in what he asserted and would endeavour to elude the further investigation of his own crimes, by diverting our attention to other enquiries of a more interesting and important nature.

18 But the knowledge I have of the Minister's character, the message I had received from Khande Rao Rashtia, the extraordinary reluctance with which the Minister assisted me in the prosecution of my enquiries, these several circumstances combined with my former intelligence of the Ministers concealed proceedings, seemed to require that I should bring Anand Rao to a public and formal acknowledgement of the companions of his intrigues. There appeared to me to be no impropriety in urging Anand Rao to such an acknowledgement provided I did not press my enquiries with such indiscreet zeal and anxiety as might be offensive to the personal feelings or disrespectful to the station of Mankeshwar.

19 The two points, therefore, in the further prosecution of my enquiries, which I was desirous of bringing to some satisfactory result were first, whether the Minister had actually withheld the communication of my papers which had been found on Morabah Phurkia and which ought to have been exhibited to me and secondly whether the Minister were himself implicated in the correspondence by assisting, encouraging, or not noticing it, until it was brought to light by Khande Rao Rastiah.

20 I therefore sent a message to the Minister expressive of my surprise at his dilatoriness in furnishing me with copies of the two papers the originals of which had been communicated to me at his not having given me any intimation of the result of his examination of Morabai Phurkiah's papers, at his not having communicated to me any interesting papers which might have been found on that person and generally at the extraordinary indifference which he had shown towards the whole investigation of the nature and extent of the detected correspondence. I added in the message that I was anxious to bring the investigation to some satisfactory result and requested he would permit me to call upon him and to put some questions before him to Khinde Rao Rashtiah and Anand Rao Keysur on the subject of the correspondence.

21 The Minister in his reply to this message offered many excuses for his delay in the prosecution of the investigation and appointed the following day for my visit for the purpose of examining Anand Rao Keysur and questioning Khanderao Rashtiah on the subject of the correspondence.

22 Agreeably to this appointment I waited upon the Minister on the evening of the 26th ultimo and have the honour to submit to Your Excellency's notice an account of what passed on that occasion.

23 Your Excellency's intimate knowledge and long experience of the Mahratta character will prevent Your Excellency from being disappointed at the result of that conference. It certainly did not lead to a detection of the Minister's supposed conduct, though the tone, manner and appearance of the Minister's mode of defence against the bold assertions of Anand Rao Keysur and the whole tenor of the conference certainly tended to confirm my suspicions that the Minister is not free from the imputation of having seen the papers pointed out by Anand Rao Keysur and of having withheld many interesting documents found upon Morabai Phurkiah.

24 It is a fact which has been reported to me by my own intelligence and of which I can entertain little doubt that after Anand Rao's confinement Sreepat Rao and Balajee Punt two notorious agents of Holkar were ordered by the Minister either to leave Poona or to conceal themselves and that on the evening of my last conference with the Minister Rarikishan Bhut a character very well known at Poona and who was the person alluded to by Anand Rao Keysur as having shown the Minister the three papers suddenly disappeared from the city.

25 I now beg leave to refer Your Excellency to the enclosure No. 4 being a memorandum of what passed at Anand Rao's visit to me and to the enclosure No. 5 which is the substance of a second private message conveyed to me by Khanderao Rashtiah.

26 The latter document together with the report of my last conference with the Minister will I trust suggest to Your Excellency the futility of my pressing my enquiries any further and the impossibility of my bringing those enquiries to a satisfactory result. It has been my earnest endeavour to prosecute the investigation of the whole transaction in such a way as might tend to its complete disclosure without provoking the Minister, or offending the Peshwa. That the transaction has not been satisfactorily developed will not I trust be found to be owing to any want of zeal, activity or vigilance on my part but I believe I may venture to assure Your Excellency with confidence that no step which I have taken has given the slightest cause of offence either to the Minister or to the Peshwa. Though the result of the transaction has not been so satisfactory as might have been wished still the enquiries have not terminated without some substantial advantages. We have at least obtained a clear insight into the source of the absurd and injurious rumours which were so

prevalent through this city Two of the principal circulators of those rumours have been detected, confined, and prevented from the further prosecution of their malicious designs We have discovered some other of the agents of Holkar at this capital, namely Sreeput Rao, and Bala Punt and Ramkishan Bhat, and we can hereafter keep a vigilant eye over those persons, and be prepared to adopt such further measures against them as circumstances may hereafter suggest Under the arrangements which Your Excellency has directed to be carried into effect in Hindostan and the Deccan, it is probable that the period of the present rains will be one of deep active and extensive, intrigue and it is therefore of the greatest importance that we should already arrive at such a general knowledge of the agents and conductors of intrigue at this capital and in the southern countries, as may enable us to restrain the propagation of reports which may disturb the tranquillity of this country, and afford delusive hope to those who are disaffected to the combined interests of the Peshwa and British Government Above all we have improved our acquaintance with the real character and disposition of the Minister of this state, and we have established sufficient grounds to justify an extreme jealousy of his principles and concealed designs, and an unremitting vigilance over the conduct of a person in whom no confidence can be placed without the danger of its being most grossly abused

27 I beg leave to state to Your Excellency, that I deemed it proper to delay the dispatch of this address, until I had availed myself of the advice and assistance of Colonel Close in bringing the whole subject in comprehensive and general form, before the consideration of Your Excellency

Poona, the 20th June 1805

Khande Rao Rastiah sent Captain Sydenham a private message that the Minister was unwilling to produce all the papers which he had seized upon Morobah Phurkiah because some of those papers might lead to enquiries which might terminate in implicating the Minister himself in the charge of receiving and holding clandestine and improper correspondence with the Agents and Partizans of the British Government

Khande Rao Rastiah has been directed to deliver over to the Minister all the papers which were found on Morobah Phurkiah but he has kept a memorandum of them which will enable him to prove that a great number have not been exhibited to Captain Sydenham

Khande Rao Rashtiah assures Captain Sydenham that he is sincere and zealous servant of the Peshwa's and that he is convinced that the interests of his master is inseparable from the interests of the British Government As a faithful friend of both states Khande Rao Rashtiah cannot but lament that the conduct of the Minister is such as to endanger the continuance of that alliance which has produced such important and substantial benefits to the Poona state

If Khande Rao Rastiah were to accuse the Minister of withholding from the knowledge of Captain Sydenham the papers which were seized on Moorabah Phurkia Khande Rao Rastiah's life would be endangered and still the papers might be concealed But the papers ought to be brought to light, the Minister's conduct ought to be known, the British Government ought to know who are their friends and who are their enemies

If Captain Sydenham will express his suspicions that some papers have been withheld, Khande Rao Rastiah will be called to declare whether or not any papers have been withheld In the first instance Khande Rao Rastiah must deny that my papers have been withheld but

if Captain Sydenham not contented with asseveration shall think proper to put Khande Rao Rastiah to his oath on the Peshwa's feet Khande Rao Rastiah will then declare the truth

All that Khande Rao Rastiah wishes is that truth should be known and that Captain Sydenham should judge what degree of confidence is to be placed in a Minister whose expressions are irreconcilable with his conduct

Whether the Minister be in prosperity or adversity what is it to Khande Rao Rastiah so long as the Poona state is in safety Khande Rao Rastiah does not wish to ruin Marakeshwar but to save the Peshwa

THOMAS SYDENHAM

Anand Rao Keysur sent a message to me through the Barkoon of the Residency to the following purport

I do not know from what motives the Minister should have taken such pains to persuade Captain Sydenham that I am an enemy to both states since I have not taken a single step nor put my hand to a single paper without the concurrence sanction and advice of the Minister himself The pains which the Minister has taken will end in his own ruin I am acquainted with such transactions and am in possession of such papers as will show Captain Sydenham what sort of a friend the British Government has in the Minister

I know that the Minister was about to make certain communications to Captain Sydenham and I wrote to him desiring him to see me and to listen to what I had to say but he gave me no reply

He has chosen to accuse me and I will make him repent of it I know that Captain Sydenham took his impressions from the Minister and from whom but the Minister ought to have a Vakil to take his sentiments? But I heard Captain Sydenham tell the Minister before me that he was determined to trace this transaction to the foundation and that he would not quit his enquiries until he had discovered who were the friends and who the enemies of the states in Poona I will on a proper occasion show him in the face of the day who are the enemies of the Company's Sircar be they great be they small Let me be questioned before Shreemunt and the Ministers and I will avow the whole transactions If the Ministers evade let them take a solemn oath and with our hands upon the feet of Shreemunt I will compel them to the truth

I told the Minister when I was examined Why do ask questions do you not know all the transaction He could give no answer but Captain Sydenham marked the words let Captain Sydenham keep the question on his memory and will explain to him the meaning of it Captain Sydenham ordered the following message to be delivered to Anand Rao Keysur

The Minister by the desire of the Peshwa communicated to me certain papers which proved that Anand Rao Keysur was engaged in a correspondence of a most unjustifiable nature I therefore thought it my duty to recommend that the person of such a man should be secured until we could examine the whole truth of the proceeding and I notified his measure immediately to the Resident at Hyderabad

I act from no personal motives my measures are founded upon public considerations I have whether friend nor enemy except those who are friends and enemies to my Government My view is to arrive at truth from whomsoever may proceed or against whomsoever may operate

I wish to hold separte communications. Anand Rao Keysur, the examination shall be public. Let the avowal be public and let Anand Rao be assured that he will not lose by any open unequivocals unreserved declaration of what he knows.

THOMAS SYDENHAM,
Captain

*Memorandum of the substance of a conference held at the Minister's
on the evening of the 26th June 1805*

Captain Sydenham was accompanied by Mr Gowan and the Pirsee Accountant of the Residency, and found at the Minister Kistnaje Bowanee, Khande Rao Ristuli, Anand Rao Mulhar, and Bayajee Naique.

The Minister offered many excuses for his apparent indifference to the further prosecution of the enquiries into the nature and extent of the intercepted correspondence upon the ground of our having obtained all the information which it was likely could be procured upon the subject. Captain Sydenham replied, that he was by no means satisfied of that being the case. At all events, it was probable that much more interesting and satisfactory information might have been procured if the Minister, at the outset, had he exerted that vigilance, activity, and promptitude, which are so necessary in detecting the clandestine proceedings of concealed enemies. Captain Sydenham then enquired whether the Minister had examined all Morabai Phurkiah's papers, and whether any interesting documents had been discovered. Captain Sydenham likewise requested the Minister to lose no time in furnishing him with copies of two papers the originals of which had been communicated to him at his last visit to the Minister.

The Minister immediately furnished Captain Sydenham with copies of the two papers required, and proceeded to communicate to Captain Sydenham some more letters which had been discovered amongst the papers of Morabai Phurkiah.

The paper marked (A) attached to this report, is a translation of a Memorandum of a written examination taken by Kistnaje Bowanee on the evening of the June and to which paper Captain Sydenham alluded in his address official No. 11.

The paper marked (B) is a most extraordinary document. It appears to be a draft of demands made by Holkar on His Excellency Lord Lake, as the Prince of Peace between Holkar and the British Government. This paper is generally called the Treaty of Twenty-seven articles and is referred to in the intercepted letter of Anand Rao Keysur. Captain Sydenham is ignorant whether the Agents of Holkar, in all their extravagance, ever had the presumption to submit this absurd paper to the consideration of Lord Lake.

The paper Marked (C) contains translations of four letters in the handwriting of Anand Rao Keysur, and of one in the handwriting of Khande Rao Goorporah. These five letters were found on Morabai Phurkiah, and were the additional papers which the Minister communicated to Captain Sydenham. At the present moment after the examination of these papers, Anand Rao Keysur was called in, and the following questions were put to him by Captain Sydenham. Captain Sydenham. Look at those papers and see whether they be in your handwriting.

A R. Four are in my handwriting but the fifth is not (alluding to the one written by Khande Rao Goorporah).

Capt S It is my determination to make every endeavour to trace this correspondence to its fullest extent. It is highly improbable it should be confined to yourself. When I last examined you I asked you distinctly whether you acted from yourself or whether you were in Agent or another person. You replied that you acted from yourself but as it has been proved that you were guilty of equivocating in almost every answer that you gave me I now think proper to repeat the question and to enquire who were concerned besides yourself in carrying on this correspondence? From whom you received the intelligence which you were so industrious in concealing, and whether that intelligence to the best of your knowledge or belief was conveyed to any other person in Poona but yourself.

A R The letters which I wrote proceeded from myself. Two letters which I will point out (No 5 of address No 14 and No 2 of D No 15) and the Treaty of 27 articles are known to my certain knowledge, to Sedashco Rao Mankeshwar long before I was confined. The person who brought those papers to me took them to the Blaw who read them took copies of them and talked of them.

The Minister was here evidently much surprised and agitated. He looked round and appeared to be much confused. When he recovered his confidence he attempted to laugh at the accusation but Anand Rao turning towards the Minister began to tax him so severely that a most clamorous and violent discussion commenced which defied all interference from some Ministers. The rapidity of utterance, the noise and confusion of several voices speaking at the same time and all with equal violence prevented Captain Sydenham from understanding much of what had passed on either side. The Minister seemed to resist the accusation by defying Anand Rao to produce written documents and with the usual sophistry of the natives demanded what could tempt a Minister enjoying such plenitude of power and influence under the Peshwa to risk his life by a treacherous correspondence with Holkar or his Agents. What Holkar had to give him half so much as that which he enjoyed under the Peshwa and a vast deal of such reasoning as applied certainly with great force to the impolicy of the act but not the act itself.

As soon as the clamour had in some degree subsided Captain Sydenham again addressed Anand Rao.

Captain S You have now chosen to bring forward a very serious charge against the Minister of this state, and you ought to consider well before you presume to accuse a person filling so high and responsible station of any acts which may involve his character and reputation. Do you mean to insinuate that the Minister of this state has been in the habit of receiving as you have been clandestine intelligence from the Agents of our public enemy or do you confine yourself to the statement that certain papers were communicated to him?

A R I let the Minister answer for his own conduct which will require all his ability. I only assert that the papers I mentioned were communicated to the Minister by the same person who brought them to me.

Captain S Consider well before you make so bold an assertion. I expect you to speak truth on whomsoever it may operate. But you will not do yourself any good by implicating others falsely.

A R I stand to my assertion.

Captain S Who is the person who brought you the intelligence and who you assert communicated the three papers to the Minister?

A. R. I cannot give up his name here. He will be disposed of by the Minister before I can send for him, and no body will remain to support my assertion.

Capt. S. But the Minister who must be desirous of falsifying your assertions, and vindicating his character from your imputations, will promptly produce the man provided he be really in Poona. The Minister immediately said, that he would bend himself to produce the man, if he were in Poona or its neighbourhood.

A. R. Replied to Captain Sydenham you may repose what confidence you place on the Minister's promise, but as I am not disposed to believe anything he says I will not give up man's name.

Capt. S. But you have no objection to telling me his name.

A. R. None, and if the Minister will permit me to call upon you tomorrow I will give up the man's name.

It was then agreed between the Minister, Captain Sydenham and Anand Rao Keysur, that the latter should wait the next day upon Captain Sydenham for the purpose of giving up the man's name and the Minister bound himself to produce the man if he were to be found in Poona.

Capt. S. It appears to me extraordinary that your correspondence with Moorobah should be confined within so short a period it is probable that you have written more papers to Morobah Phurkia, than the one said to have been found upon him, or at least than have been communicated to me. Have you any recollection of having written any other letters than those which have been shown to you, and to the handwriting of which you have owned.

Anand Rao was extremely equivocal in replying to this question. It was repeatedly explained to him, but his answers were not at all to the point. At last sufficient was said as to the probability of there being more papers of his on Morobah Phurkia, to enable Captain Sydenham to question Khande Rao Rastiah respecting the seizure and disposal of the papers. Khande Rao though at first very decisive in his answer was pressed by so many questions from Captain Sydenham, that the Minister appeared rather disturbed by the examination, for Khande Rao Rastiah gradually became less positive and more equivocal in his replies. The Minister then supported all Khande Rao Rastiah's assertions. However Captain Sydenham declared to both of them, that he was by no means satisfied respecting the disposal of the papers. That either the Karkoons or Khanderao Rastiah, had not seized all Phurkia's papers, or that Khande Rao Rastiah had not communicated all of them to the Minister, or that the Minister had not exhibited all of them to Captain Sydenham. Khande Rao protested with earnestness that the suspicions regarding himself were unfounded, and said he would be happy to do anything to prove that he had delivered over all the papers to the Minister. Captain Sydenham replied that admitting that the question was whether all the papers which had been delivered over to the Minister, were communicated to Captain Sydenham, Khande Rao Rastiah asserted they had been all communicated. Captain Sydenham demanded whether Khande Rao Rastiah would take his oath to that before the Peshwa. Khande Rao Rastiah replied that he would. This seemed to disturb the Minister who was profuse in protestations of sincerity and attachment, and assured Captain Sydenham there was no necessity of putting such a man as Khande Rao Rastiah to an oath.

Captain Sydenham then addressed the Minister in a very serious tone and declared that he had witnessed such equivocation and evasion during the whole of the present investigation that he scarcely knew what to believe or what to discredit that it was his determination to trace the intrigue through all its mazes notwithstanding the difficulties which had been so industriously thrown in his way by the Minister that it was of essential importance to determine who were and who were not the friends of the Peshwa and the British Government that it was not his disposition to indulge suspicion without adequate cause but that he must formally and unequivocally declare to the Minister that he did think the Minister's conduct perfectly irreconcilable with the combined interests of both states and with the Minister's own expressions of zeal cordiality and attachment That Colonel Close would shortly arrive at Poona, and would be enabled if necessary to complete the enquiries what Captain Sydenham had hitherto so unsuccessfully prosecuted and that in the mean while the whole transaction had been laid before the Governor General in detail and His Excellency would form his ultimate judgment from the documents which Captain Sydenham had transmitted and would now transmit to Calcutta

True copy

T SYDENHAM

(Captain)

Memorandum of the Articles of a Treaty given to the Officers to be ratified by the Company

1 When His Highness went to Bassein the English of Bombay deceiving him obtained his signature to certain papers which must be returned

2 Sashti which you have taken must be restored with the whole amount of the collections made whilst in your hands

3 The lands contiguous to the sea the Government of which was ours from the beginning these you have taken possession of you must return them with the collections you have received

4 Surat and its dependencies which you obtained of the Nawab you must restore

5 Whatever places you have got in the Guzerat must be restored and the collections received be repaid

6 The Attavessy must be given back

7 The places you have got possessions of in the country of the Gaikavtar must be returned and the collections repaid Articles relative to Sindia which must be restored according to a list to be prepared

8 Districts and Fortresses

9 Whole amount of collections

10 Guns and military stores taken at Assier

Articles relative to Bhonsla which must be restored according to the list to be prepared.

11 Districts and Forts

12 Amount of collections

13 Guns and military stores, etc of Gawilghur

14 Districts taken from the Nabab Bundeeghan Ally with the amount of their collections to be restored

Articles relative to Tippoo Sultan which with Pattan and other places in your possession must be restored

15 All the treasures property booty etc which fell into your hands when you took Seerungapatam

- 16 Chinapatam and its dependencies
- 17 The jewels of the image of Seerungapatam
- 18 The Government tribute which has been withheld since you obtained possession.
- 19 Whatever other places you have taken from the Raja's landholders and others
- 20 Bengal the hereditary possession of the king with the whole of its dependencies must be restored and the collections received since it came into your possession must be repaid
- 21 The places you have seized in Hindoostan, and the money levied must be restored
- 22 The losses which I have sustained in my possessions during this war must be made good by you
- 23 The losses which sustained by the four kingdoms must be made good in cash. If you have not so much you must deliver up whatever places I require as security until it be paid
- 24 You must withdraw your armies from every station, that affect the articles of this paper which must be signed unequivocally
- 25 In lieu of the Choute of Calcutta you must give me any place I require
- 26 The possessions of the Nabab Serjouddoulah's with the whole amount of the collections thereof must be restored
- 27 The jewels of Dada Sahib must be returned

A true translation

G. GOWAN

After compliments

No 1 You have informed me that I am dismissed from my office, but that the business of intelligencer remains with me Today 200 pieces of ordnance came from Nugger to Poona and are proceeding to Bombay The remaining Battalions are going to Madras

A true translation

C GOWAN

No 2 - Holkar has completely destroyed the English I wrote you formerly of the battle near Bhurtapore In this three Officers of rank were taken prisoners. They signed an agreement to deliver up some districts A letter was then dispatched to Sindiah to desire him to come up unattended On which Sindiah leaving his army at Raghogur and taking about 5,000 horse came near to Mutra to meet Holkar Since this it is certain that Istyajee Manee and his Pindaries have moved on the 10th of Mohorrum at night the English had an audience of Sreemunt and requested him to delay his journey to Wahy and to bring Yeshoda Bai Raigur from thence On this they had some altercation, but the fact is they are taking her to Callinger The Burhanpore Battalions have come to Nuggar The Nawab's troops are going with Mahipat Ram to Hyderabad The Vinchore man has gone to his district - Nugger has been dismantled It is evident that a Treaty has been made The letters to the Bankers here confirm it A letter has been sent to Calcutta and will bring the ratification in 15 days (12th Mohorrum) There was a consulta-

tion here until one watch of the night. They are greatly astonished here. It is come to this pass that the English shall have the sea but no land. Chintaman Rao with 7 or 8000 men has entered the district of Jumbundie at present Vithan Bapone and Larcob and Morrow Punt Dattir etc have collected 2 or 3000 men. Their orders are obeyed as far as Kir khumb people here hold frequent consultations. Sindia and Holkar are coming to this country to canton their force. This is certain you shall be informed of every thing that occurs. I have not yet heard respecting Ourad (?)

A true translation

C GOWAN

No 3 In the month of *Magh* 1st day of increase near Coombhar there was a battle between Holkar and the English in which the latter were defeated with the loss of from five to seven Battalions. The rest fled after on the 10th having collected their troops they went and laid siege to Bhurtpore. On this Holkar and the Jais together defeated and destroyed this force. A few escaped wounded three officers of rank were taken prisoners. Much plunder was made of the horses, camels and other camp equipage. At this time flour sold in the English Camp at sixteen rupees the seer. There was much slaughter and their troops were not destroyed when Sindia marched thither. Herjee Holkar joined him with 20,000 men. He wrote to him to return to Ougein and himself would shortly come to Maheswar when they might meet. As he had destroyed all the English in that quarter on this Sindia marched from Sagar and arrived at Seronjee. From thence he will go to Ujjain and afterwards to Bhurtpore. To this effect Narain Rao Vaidya has written to Sreemunt from Nagpore. In consequence His Highness determined to go to Wahy and thence to Mahar and whence he would proceed to Ghorcbunder where he would remain for the purpose he sent camels from the pasturages. I hear also that the English Vakil goes with him. Letters have arrived from Sindia's Camp stating that Holkar has routed out all the English forces and that the end of these things was approaching. Vaidya writes that the English Vakil has arrived and presented a memorandum of articles of agreement in which there has been some dispute about an article regarding the Karnatick. The Vakil urges that we must not demand tribute or restitution of the treasure etc. of Tippoo Sultan. When this is determined every one will return to his own station. I have written all the news which I have.

A true translation

C GOWAN

No 4 The English there are finished whatever remains of them is fled and hid. They have no force to oppose us. Sindia was at Bhelsa on the 7th. Thence he will march to Ujjain and ultimately hither. His Highness is acquainted with these matters and intends to leave this place. Sindia's Pindaries are in advance and will quickly arrive. The troops at Mulka pore and the Vinchore man have ascended the Adjuntv Ghauts and gone to Aurangabad and intend to proceed to Nuggur. The troops here will march there in two or three days and thence. I hear they will go to Hyderabad. Let your servant be in your mind.

A true translation

C GOWAN

Khande Rao Garpara Amu-ul-Omrah to Morobha Dada, 5th Mohurram

No 5 Lately I received some letters from you which I do not understand but I request you still to rejoice me with them Appa Saheb has joined the army and had an interview with Sindia who treated him with distinction The army is now stationed at Sangor Sakharam Gautkey is his Minister Colonel Close has left Nagpore and arrived there Holkar with his army is at Bhurtpore The power of the English is gone, and every thing yields to Holkar By the favour of God in a short while every thing put on a fair aspect I am plunged in debt at Poona, and I am waiting in hopes of a turn of affairs The Ministry are gone to Colapore, to put up views Rastah has sent all his property to Logur This is the state of affairs here That more may occur I will write after days what I hear from the Chiefs in the army You shall know Till now Holkar's vakeel has been concealed Now openly he transacts business at the Durbar All the English Troops are gone to Nugger

A true translation

C GOWAN

Anand Rao Keysur called upon Captain Sydenham, with the knowledge of the Minister, for the purpose of mentioning the name of the person who carried the papers (alluded to in the conference on the 26th instant) to Munkeshwar

The man's name is Ram Kishan Bhut, an obscure poor Brahmin, who was formerly employed by Sindia, who still takes Sindia's name, but who in fact is an Agent of Holkar's and is fed, clothed and paid by Mankeshwar

Captain Sydenham asked Anand Rao whether the Brahmin would confess to the facts

Anand Rao replied that he certainly would if Captain Sydenham would ensure his safety

Captain Sydenham asked where the Brahmin was to be found

Anand Rao replied that he had been either concealed, or removed from Poona by the Minister, but that his hiding place would soon be discovered and that Anand Rao would soon bring him to Captain Sydenham

Captain Sydenham asked Anand Rao Keysur, whether Anand Rao Holkar was not still near Poona

Anand Rao replied, that Anand Rao Holkar was at the Jadoo Bareer, that Anand Rao Holkar continually corresponded with people to the northward, that he had met Munkeshwar at Bunndisur, and that he had met the Peshwa on His Highness's return from Saisoor

Captain Sydenham asked Anand Rao, whether Sreeput Rao and Holkar's agents in Poona, and whether these Agents were not in the habit of communicating with the Minister and Bulwant Rao Nagonaut

Anand Rao replied that the men Captain Sydenham mentioned were in Poona, about 10 days ago, and were Anand Rao Holkar's Agents That they certainly did communicate with the Durbar, but that he cannot speak with certainty through what channel

Captain Sydenham enquired whether Morabah Phurkiah did not continually correspond with Baba Phurkiah

Anand Rao replied continually

Captain Sydenham asked whether it was not probable many of Baba Phurkiah's papers were found on Morabah Phurkiah's Anand Rao replied that he thought there must have been many of Baba Phurkiah's letters amongst Moroba Phurkiah's papers

Captain Sydenham asked Anand Rao whether he knew any thing of Madajee Punt, Moroba Phurkia & Karkoon

Anand Rao replied that he did not. Captain Sydenham repeated the question and Anand Rao gave the same answer.

Anand Rao then entered into a long account of all Mankeshwar's conduct but as he was extremely violent in his expressions and as he did not say anything that was new Captain Sydenham does not think it necessary to record a memorandum of it.

THOMAS SYDENHAM

Khanderao Rastiah conveyed a message to Captain Sydenham to the following purport

Poona 27th June 1805

That the Minister had sent Krishnaje Bhowance and Byjee Naigue to the Peshwa to acquaint His Highness that Captain Sydenham had suspicions in his mind that the Minister had withheld certain of Moroba Phurkia's papers and that Anand Rao Keyaur had accused the Minister before Captain Sydenham of being acquainted with the correspondence and of having seen and read some of the papers of that correspondence. That Captain Sydenham had been angry against Khande Rao Rastiah and told him that he would compel him to the truth before the Peshwa and that Capt Sydenham had warned Anand Rao how serious it was wrongfully to accuse a man in such a situation as that which the Minister holds. But that Anand Rao was bold in his assertions and required that both he and the Minister should be put to their oaths before the Peshwa. That the Minister was extremely anxious to avoid such an extremity and requested that His Highness would take into consideration how that extremity could not be avoided or how it could be presented from becoming injurious to the Minister.

Khande Rao Rastiah's messenger then stated that the Peshwa had observed that the Minister had no occasion to fear from Anand Rao Keyaur because that person had no papers which could convict the Minister, and that as for his oath the Minister could take as solemn as one as Anand Rao and the Peshwa would absolve the Minister from all crime (Paup) for taking a false oath.

That the Peshwa then sent for Khande Rao Rastiah and asked him whether he wished to bring disgrace upon his master and sovereign and ruin upon the Minister. That Khande Rao Rastiah replied assuredly not. That the Peshwa then asked whether Khande Rao Rastiah intended to confess to Captain Sydenham that he had delivered certain papers to the Minister which related to the intrigues which had lately been detected and which ought to be exhibited to Captain Sydenham. That Khande Rao Rastiah had replied I positively denied to Captain Sydenham that I knew of any other papers than those which had been shown to him but if Captain Sydenham not satisfied with simple denial should put me to an oath on your Highness's feet what can I do but confess the truth. That the Peshwa said Do any thing to save the Minister. If Captain Sydenham should require your oath take such an oath as will support your former assertion. I will forgive your taking a false oath. If these be a crime it will rest upon me and you will have done your duty to your Master.

Under these circumstances Khande Rao Rastiah begged to state to Captain Sydenham that it was impossible that the Peshwa's injunctions and wishes should be disregarded. Khande Rao Rastiah if compelled to

an oath, would be placed in the dreadful alternative between the heinous crime of taking a false oath and the disobedience of his sovereigns positive injunctions

Khande Rao Rastiah wishes however that 'Captain Sydenham should bear in his mind what has occurred on the late occasion, and be assured that the Minister's conduct and designs are totally incompatible with the interests and security of the Poona state

Captain Sydenham desired that the following reply should be delivered to Khande Rao Rastiah

That Captain Sydenham's object was to arrive at truth but in pursuing that object he did not wish to compel Khande Rao Rastiah to any such disagreeable alternative as he had mentioned, and that Captain Sydenham had only further to observe that the more he saw of the Mahrattas the less dependance he found could be placed upon any of them.

THOMAS SYDENHAM

Letter No. 5.—It describes the efforts of the Resident to rid Peshwa's Government of the undesirable officers. The intentions of the Peshwa to entrust the management of Bundelkhund and adjoining territories to the Company and of changing certain of his officers whose conduct had not been found satisfactory by the Resident are communicated to the Governor-General

FROM—COLONEL CLOSE, RESIDENT AT POONA,
TO—THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL

Poona, the 20th July 1805

On the 19th instant I had the honour to address your Lordship, transmitting a copy of a letter which I had recently received from the Acting Resident in Mysore, together with a transcript of my reply, from which your Lordship would perceive that I had arranged for having a meeting with Sedashiv Mankeshwar in the course of yesterday. With the view to procure this meeting I managed to have an interview with Bajee Naig, with whom I conversed largely on the present distractious condition of the Poona Government pointing out to him that owing to the want of capacity and good intention on the part of the Dewan, the Peshwa instead of enjoying that ease of mind, and honourable comfort which his alliance with the British Government was calculated to bestow upon him His Highness was kept in a constant state of anxiety either by remonstrances necessarily made to his Dewan by the British Resident, or by the disobedience and wicked conduct of the persons placed by the Dewan in the civil and military charge of His Highness's territories, which instead of yielding a revenue for His Highness's treasury, went only to maintain a set of abandoned men whose first object in obtaining authority was to assemble bands of freebooters, and then, acting for themselves, hold His Highness's Government at defiance. I now particularized the conduct of Ramchander Lago in Savenore and the present state of Nasik, Omber Kair and Julgaon and the shameful denreditions committed by the numerous rabble assembled of late under Boreholey, and contrasting therewith the tranquil state of the Conkun under Khande Rao Rastiah, whom the Dewan was so anxious to dismiss from office merely because he had always shown the most sincere attachment to His Highness person and Government, and conducted his charge of the Conkun with a degree of success, which had attracted the notice of the Hon'ble Sir Arthur Wellesley, and induced the General to recommend him

to the Peshwa as a meritorious servant worthy of being placed in charge of the important fortress of Lohghur, in addition to the extensive territory already under his management. Here I pressed it on Bajee Naig that it did not remain for me to learn that His Highness possessed a judgment which could accurately discriminate between good and bad between the depraved and abandoned and the upright and zealous and that yet I found a character continue in his confidence and favour whose principles and conduct no honest man could possibly approve. That it had always been my wish as it was that of all the gentlemen employed by your Lordship in the Deccan to promote His Highness's interests and honour by every means practicable and that from the assurances which I had so frequently received from His Highness I had been always convinced that His Highness loved truth sincerity disinterestedness and fair dealings and detested the opposite qualities but that whenever I adverted to the principles designs and conduct of the Minister whom His Highness continued to cherish I dreaded any attempt to account for what came daily within my experience. That Captain Sydenham's statement to your Lordship were of the more serious tendency and that should a further continuance of the evils which he necessarily complained of and reprobated shake your Lordship's opinion of the probity of His Highness's mind it would then be little available to grieve over a result which the conduct of His Highness's confidential servant had rendered inevitable. At this place I begged of Bajee Naig to reflect seriously on what I had observed apprized him that I knew well that notwithstanding the enmity of the Minister towards him moments did occur at which the Peshwa would give him a separate hearing especially if His Highness should learn that he was charged by the Resident with particulars for his private ear and recommended earnestly that he would watch an occasion by which to communicate immediately to His Highness all that I had explained. Bajee Naig assured me that he would do all that was possible to comply with my wishes and took his leave.

This morning he returned and told me that yesterday evening he had found means to make the communication to His Highness which I had so earnestly desired that after hearing all that I had stated His Highness manifested great concern and sent for Sadashiv Mankeshwar who was obliged to attend though suffering from fever. That on his arrival His Highness animadverted with much warmth on the mischievous conduct of Ramchander Lago from whose unwarranted attacks on the districts of Gokhla and Appa Dessaye Savenore would soon be in flames that complaints had long been incessant against Ramchander who had now proved himself incapable of the charge confided to him and that he was to be immediately recalled that the Dewan replied that His Highness's order should be immediately complied with on which His Highness resumed that notwithstanding the indulgence and mildness which he showed to all his servants in authority the return which he in general experienced from them was only disobedience or abuse of trust that in disposing of Savenore in future he should make the manager responsible for his conduct to the British Government whose constant support was indispensable to the well being of the Poona state that the Dewan being unwell was permitted to return to his dwelling and that after his departure His Highness observed to him (Bajee Naig) that as the Dewan was unwell he could not conveniently meet the British Resident agreeably to appointment that it was accordingly necessary that he (Bajee Naig) should wait on the Resident and report to him what had passed respecting Ramchander and that the person who should be appointed to succeed him should be made responsible to the Resident.

Bajee Naig having concluded this part of his message went on to say that he was charged by His Highness to give me assurances that not an hour passed that did not give him deeper impressions of the value of his

alliance with the Hon'ble Company and of your Lordship's solicitude to promote his honour and comfort, and that it should be his study to regulate his Government according to the sentiments and advice of the British Resident, that hitherto the mismanagement of his servants had kept his treasury almost empty, that it was his wish the Vinchoor Jaghierdar with his troops and his Dewan Ballabah should be at liberty to attend solely to the protection, management and improvement of Khandesh and the districts between the Bheema and the Godavery and that Gokhla and Appah Dessaye with their quotas should serve with Colonel Wallace in room of the Vinchoor man as the Poona contingent, that certainly funds were wanted to pay these Sardars, and that he was accordingly willing to accede to a plan which he thought would be available in this respect, that a part of Bundelkhand belonged to the Poona state which had also undeniable claims on the territories of Kalpee, Jhansi and Sagar and lands adjoining That it was difficult to manage Bundelkhand with effort, that it could be ruled only by a vigorous hand. That Shamsheer Bahadur would undoubtedly prove to be incapable of managing the part of Bundelkhand belonging to the Poona state with any success and that it was accordingly his wish that the British Government should take upon itself the entire management of the said part of Bundelkhand, fix a suitable stipend for Shamsheer Bahadur and after deducting the expense of management allow the remaining balance to come to the Poona treasury That by this plan, Bundelkhand would be efficiently ruled by one undivided authority, Shamsheer Bahadur suitably provided for and the finances of the Poona state improved That in respect of Kalpee, Jhansi and Saugor, etc, lands adjoining it was his wish to leave the amount of the claims of the Poona state on those territories to be decided by the British Government in whose justice and impartiality he had the fullest reliance That the amount when so determined should be paid into the Poona treasury through the British Government That it was not necessary to go into any explanation of the ground of these claims as all India knew that they referred to a grant made personally to his ancestor Badjee Rao, that these arrangements, when executed would enable him to pay Appah Dessaye and Gokhla in a manner which would secure their services, add to the strength of the Poona Government and promote the interests of the alliance

I told Byajee Naig, that I had reason to applaud His Highness's wisdom in ordering Ramchandra to be removed from office and resolving to make the future managers of Savenore responsible to the British Government for their conduct and that I had equal reason to commend the solicitude shown by His Highness to increase the resources of his Government for a purpose so desirable as that of securing the services of two Sardars who were so well affected to his person and Government, that I should immediately communicate His Highness's propositions relative to Bundelkhand, Kalpee, etc, to Your Lordship, and should be careful to apprise His Highness the moment I should be honoured with Your Lordship's reply Byajee Naig said he should report my answer to His Highness and then withdrew

After Byajee Naig's departure I received a visit from Balajee Punt, Gokhla's vakeel, who came to assure me that his master did not wish it be imagined that he had any complaint to offer against Ramchander Lago and that he would prevent any dispute from taking place between his Talookdars in Savenore and the troops of Ramchander Punt I told Balajee Punt, that I was happy to find that Gokhla was so moderately disposed and that it was necessary that he should order his Talookdars with their troops to withdraw immediately from the Peshwa's districts, on which Balajee Punt promised to send me an order to them from Gokhla to that effect and then withdrew.

Rajajee Punt bears a good character but renting some villages under the Poona Government is apparently in the interest of the Dewan. It is probable that the Dewan will yet exert his utmost strength to prevent the removal of Ramechander whose place in the event of his dismissal, it will be difficult to fill with advantage.

In respect to His Highness's propositions relating to Bundelkhand, Kalpee etc. I shall only remark that any scheme tending to promote the resources of the Poona Government and enable it to secure the services of Gokhla and Appah Dessaye cannot fail of being useful to the alliance.

Letter No. 6.—Reports the disturbances caused by the attacks of Southern Maratta Chieftains on the territories of the Nizam and of one another.

FROM—COLONEL CLOSE RESIDENT AT POONA

TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL

Poona the 27th July 1805

I am concerned to observe to Your Lordship that the caution formerly given by Major General the Honble Sir Arthur Wellesley to the Southern Maratta Chieftains by which he enjoined them to refrain from hostilities against the possessions of each other appears now to be wholly disregarded by them. By Captain Sydenham's correspondence Your Lordship has been apprized of the unprovoked attacks made by Chintaman Rao Patwardkar on the Jaghirs of Gokhla and Appah Dessaye the attack made by the same Chieftain on the Zamindar of Kitorre and the violence committed by the Peshwa's manager of Savenore in seizing some districts belonging to Gokhla and Appah Dessai and plundering others of property to a considerable amount. By the correspondence also of the Resident at Hyderabad Your Lordship has been apprized of the depredations committed on the districts of His Highness the Subahdar by the rabble under Godbole who are now laying waste the districts of Malojei Rajah the Representative of the Gorepore family and from a late dispatch from the Acting Resident in Mysore Your Lordship would learn that some of Gokhla's dependants had begun to show a disposition to retaliate on the manager of Savenore Chintaman Rao by an attack on Sheretty. It now appears that in return for the incursion made into his districts by Chintaman Rao Appah Dessaye has levied 8000 rupees from one of the villages of that Chief near Munglewarch on the late occasion when he defeated the freebooters in the vicinity of that post. By confirmed intelligence lately received from Meritch the Kitorre Zamindar has begun to retaliate on Chintaman Rao by plundering the districts of Shahpore and by the same intelligence as well as by a letter from the officer stationed at Errore on the Kistna it appears that on the 18th instant 2000 of the Raja of Kolapore's troops attacked the village of Earwad which belongs to a member of the Patwardhan family and were repulsed with loss.

The leaders of freebooters who were defeated by Appah Dessaye took refuge in Munglewarch which belongs to Chintaman Rao who continues to afford them protection and it is ascertained beyond all doubt that this Chieftain and the other Branches of the Patwardhan family have lately received with every mark of attention and respect a person deputed to them and the other Southern Chieftains by Jeswant Rao Holkar. This person who is attended by an escort of about 70 men continued at Meritch 8 days since and was destined direct to the Durbar of the Raja of Kolhapore.

3 From this state of things Your Lordship will perceive that not only the extensive territories belonging to the Southern Maratha Chieftains are materially disturbed, but that the valuable province of Savenore and lands annexed belonging to the Peshwa are likely to be again laid waste, it not wrested from the hands of his manager

4 The tranquillity which subjected for a time in the southern territories must be attributed in great degree to the presence of the British Force that was stationed on the Mulpurba, to watch the motions of the several Chieftains, who saw that they could not pursue their rapacious habits without incurring the hazard of being immediately called to account. To adhere to the plan of keeping a British Force on the Mulpurba for the purpose of checking the licentious practices of the Southern Chieftain, may be highly inconvenient to the British interest, and yet to permit Savenore and adjoining districts to continue in the constant hazard of being over-run and wrested from the Peshwa's authority must present a state of things, tending to offer considerable annoyance to the frontier of our ceded territory and that of Mysore, besides keeping the communication between the Toombudra and this quarter in a constant state of disturbance

5 It is notorious that Savenore and adjoining districts as managed at present bring nothing to the Peshwa treasury from this circumstance as well as from the confusion which prevails all over the Southern territory. It occurs to me that Your Lordship might be induced from motions of expediency, to favour an arrangement by which Savenore, etc., might be managed for the Peshwa by the Dewan of Mysore provided the Peshwa should be induced to assent to it, should Your Lordship approve, and notify your approbation of such a plan, I might sound the Durbar and afterwards correspond eventually with the Acting Resident in Mysore upon the subject

I need not observe to Your Lordship, that the regulation of Savenore, etc., by the Dewan to Mysore would not only ensure quiet and prosperity to that fertile province, and extend the commerce of Mysore, but necessarily restrain the conduct of Southern Chieftains and in the end perhaps afford the means of bringing them under some system of reform

Letter No 7—Col. Close reports his discussions with the Ministers of the Peshwa about the payment of an annual stipend of 8 lacs to Amrut Rao, Peshwa's brother, according to the agreement between Amrut Rao and Major General A. Wellesley. Amrut Rao had gone to live in Benares, and had already been paid by the British Government. The Ministers point out difficulties in making payment, and promise to place the matter before the Peshwa. They also suggest that the northern territories of the Peshwa comprising Bundelkhand, Kalpee, etc., may be managed by the Company and the payment to Amrut Rao may be made out of their revenues. The Resident suggested Suvanoor and other southern territories for the same purpose

FROM—COLONEL CLOSE, RESIDENT AT POONA,
TO—MARQUIS WELLESLEY, GOVERNOR-GENERAL

Poona, the 31st July 1805

Yesterday morning I had the honour to peruse Mr Secy Edmonstone's dispatch of the 6th instant, addressed to Captain Sydenham containing instructions from Your Lordship directing that a negotiation should be

immediately opened with this Durbar for the purpose of adjusting the provision required from the Poona state for Amrut Rao and his adherents, by the agreement concluded between that personage and Major General the Honourable Sir Arthur Wellesley and also an arrangement for the reimbursement of the sums due by His Highness the Peshwa to the British Government on account of the stipends assigned to Amrut Rao and his followers by those agreements.

Although His Highness and his principal servants were occupied in celebrating the Dutchra Festival I lost no time in signifying my wish to the Dewan to have an interview with him on business of importance. He agreed to meet me at any hour I might appoint, and the interview took place in the afternoon. He was accompanied by Kistnajee Bawance, Anant Rao Mullar and Byajee Nay. I entered on my purpose by observing that Amrut Rao had arrived with safety at Benares and that as he had addressed a letter to Your Lordship on the substance of which I shall subsequently have occasion to remark Your Lordship's attention had been naturally drawn to the tenor of the engagements which had been concluded between Amrut Rao and the Honble Sir Arthur Wellesley by which an annual stipend of seven lacs of rupees in Sander money was assigned to Amrut Rao and one lac yearly to his adherents amounting, in all to eight lacs of rupees per annum that as the arrangements with Amrut Rao were calculated to relieve His Highness's Government from serious embarrassments at a season when His Highness's resources were wholly exhausted so an anxious regard for his interests had induced Your Lordship to give effect to the several stipulations by authorizing the stipends to be discharged from time to time by cash from the British treasury. That under the happy effects of this indulgent measure and the glorious consequences of the late contests by which His Highness's finances had been so amply restored Your Lordship now concluded that His Highness was prepared to admit the charge of the stipends upon the resources of his Government. That as it was His Highness's pride to expatriate on the unqualified support he had constantly experienced from the British Government so he would surely feel it to be inconsistent with his own credit to permit that Government to bear the burden of a provision for his brother especially when it was considered that by the adjustment of that provision under the Government of the Honourable Company His Highness was not only relieved from the menace and danger of Amrut Rao's opposition but came to the possession of Amrut Rao's Jaghirs besides the attainment of facilities which led to the important fortress of Porundhur and Loghur with the lands annexed being restored to the Poona state. That according to the engagements under consideration the stipends might be discharged in cash or by an assignment of land the net revenue of which should be equal to the full amount of the stipends and that it was not with His Highness and his Ministers to conclude an arrangement for the payment of them by the mode of these two which might be deemed preferable.

Kistnajee Bawance apparently anticipating the Dewan observed that by what mode soever the stipends for Amrut Rao and his followers might be discharged whether by land or by cash His Highness the Peshwa would be ever disposed to regulate the measures of his state by the advice and suggestions of the British Government and that in the present instance His Highness would no doubt be reconciled to bear almost any pressure to meet Your Lordship's inclination. Sadashiv Mankeshwar interposed by observing that notwithstanding the extreme resentment which the Peshwa had long entertained against Amrut Rao on account of the schemes which he wantonly pursued for the purpose of dethroning His Highness nevertheless His Highness at the instance of Sir Arthur Wellesley Colonel

Malcolm and the British Resident, consented to grant to Amrut Rao a Jagheer of four or five lacks of rupees, that according to Mahratta usage the estimate for fixing this Jaghire would have referred to gross revenue and that, therefore, his actual receipts from it would have been limited to about two lacks and an half, that the Jagheer which Amrut Rao formerly held from the Peshwa, was estimated at five lacks, but that his income from it did not exceed two, that by Sir Arthur Wellesley's arrangement, Amrut Rao was to have eight lacks per annum net income and that he could not but fear that His Highness would take alarm at the difficulty of realizing so great an amount. I replied that Amrut Rao stood in the near relation of brother to the Peshwa, that his exalted rank, therefore, required an handsome provision and that should it be even allowed that the eight lacks did form an ample stipend for Amrut Rao and his adherents, it would be also allowed that the benefits derived to the Poona state from the arrangement that gave it to him, were at least proportionate; that from Amrut Rao's letter to your Lordship, indeed, he did not seem to consider that arrangement as very advantageous to him, or favourable to his pretensions; that by that letter he seemed to maintain claims on the Poona state, founded as he considered them, in law and justice, and accordingly showed himself indisposed to continue at Benares after the performance of his religious duties, or to regard the arrangements which fixed his stipend as permanent, but that as your Lordship considered the permanance of that arrangement as beneficial to the interests of His Highness the Peshwa and his brother, it was your Lordship's desire that His Highness's Government should provide for the certain and regular discharge of the stipends before described. After a short silence the Dewan observed, that the Peshwa's enmity towards Amrut Rao was so great, and the disposition of the latter so restless and seditious, that the circumstance of his return to the Deccan could not but be very inconvenient. I said, that the first point for adjustment was to make the necessary provision for the discharge of the stipends, and that to obviate the inconvenience alluded to, might be next for consideration. Krishnaje Bawanie observed that the Peshwa had lately made some overtures to your Lordship respecting his interest in Bundelkhund, Kalpee, Jhansi and Saugor. I said in answer, that I had communicated those overtures to Your Lordship, that time was requisite to allow of my receiving a reply, that at the present juncture, those overtures could not be taken as a basis for any arrangement, and that the provision in question pressed for adjustment. The Dewan observed, with some earnestness that the territory more immediately connected with Poona was but little productive, and was barely capable of answering the urgent demands of His Highness's Government; and that, should His Highness be disposed to make the provision I called for from the Northern territory before mentioned, he trusted the proposition would be accepted, that it was not possible to consult His Highness immediately on any part of the subject under discussion, as he was engaged in the Dutchena, but that the festival would soon be over, and that then your Lordship's wishes should be laid before His Highness, and his sentiments taken on every point I had stated.

Doubtful of the extent of the Peshwa's interests to the northward, and uncertain whether any provision could be made for the discharge of the stipends from the Peshwa's share of Bundelkhund and claims on the other adjacent territories that would be entirely satisfactory to your Lordship, I was led to observe that Savenore and adjoining districts had now been possessed for a considerable time by His Highness's Government but that it was acknowledged, that nothing had been received from those fertile lands into His Highness's treasury, that with the aid of the British Government, it might be possible to bring them under a system of regulation by

which they would be productive enough to yield the provision required and besides some income for His Highness's Government. The Dewan said that what I had observed was not undeserving of attention but that should the Peshwa be induced to place Savanore etc. under any authority capable of managing it in the manner I had described His Highness would be desirous to include in Savanore the several petty zamindars dependant on that province in order that their Peshwas might be duly received. I observed that the whole of the subject merited His Highness's attention and might be discussed with His Highness at an early day that in every event the provision for the discharge of the stipends was indispensably necessary that the provision might be made immediately without inconvenience to His Highness's Government was now evident for that should the assignment to the northward prove not to be satisfactory to your Lordship a suitable appropriation of security might be made from Savanore that it was for His Highness's interests that the assignment should be made soon. I added was obvious as until every point connected with the settlement of the provision should be finally concluded your Lordship would not be enabled to go into the consideration of any plan to obviate the inconveniences that would be felt by the Peshwa under the return of Amrut Rao to the Deccan. The Dewan here assured me that he would lose no time in submitting all that I had suggested to His Highness and making me acquainted with his answer. A desultory conversation here ensued, and Sadashiv Mankeshwar having recurred to the Peshwa's overtures relative to his share of Bundelkhund and expressed his hopes that with the aid of the British Government His Highness's interests in that quarter would be ascertained and promoted. I repeated that nothing could tend more to realize these hopes than to finish promptly the arrangement under discussion which would of course include an assignment by which to liquidate the sums advanced by the British Government on account of Amrut Rao's stipends. The Dewan only smiled at hearing this last observation telling me that he would see me again in three or four days. Here the conference ended.

From the manner in which the Ministers received the different propositions I think it likely that the Peshwa will assent without much difficulty to the measure of making a provision for the discharge of the stipends and the liquidations of the sums already disbursed on these accounts but will at the same time endeavour anxiously to have it agreed to that the assignment shall be made from his share of Bundelkhund or from such revenue as may prove to be due to his Government annually from Calpee Jhansi and Saugor. In pushing forward the subject I shall endeavour to have it proposed to your Lordship that the assignment be taken either from the Peshwa's northern territory or from Savanore under an arrangement of that province by which it should be managed for the Peshwa by the Dewan of Mysore. I was induced to exceed the latitude afforded by your Lordship's instructions by introducing the subject of such an arrangement to His Highness's Ministers with a view to facilitate the accomplishment of the object in contemplation and to the means it would afford for the preservation of tranquillity in the territory stretching from this vicinity to the Toombuddra.

The information required by your Lordship relative to the lands formerly held in Jagheer by Amrut Rao and the sums which have been advanced to him by this Residency is communicated in a letter of the date to the Secretary to Government.

Letter No. 8.—In this letter Barry Close reports to Cornwallis that a clandestine correspondence had been going on between Holkar and some influential people in Poona and that he was endeavouring to unearth it. Further, he informs that the Patwardhan family always maintained a Vakeel at Sindhia's Court and he is now deputed to the Holkar's Court. The Patwardhans were jealous of the British influence and were trying to induce the Peshwa to open correspondence with the Holkar and the Sindhia

FROM—B CLOSE, RESIDENT AT POONA,

TO—MARQUIS CORNWALLIS, GOVERNOR-GENERAL

Poona, the 6th September 1805

In my address, No 2, I had the honour to state, that I should continue to use endeavours to ascertain whether any person belonging to Bapojee Gūnnais Goklah had brought the letters from Holkar, of which copies were transmitted in my dispatch to your Lordship of the 22nd ultimo. The result of my investigation on the subject is, that the letters were delivered here by Harcarrah's belonging to Sindia, but whether they came alone or in Company with any Karkoon belong to Goklah my enquiries have yet failed to determine. As Mr Jenkins obtained information of a Vakeel belonging to the above Sirdar having left Holkar's camp and as the period which lapsed between the date of that event and the time at which the letters were received at this Durbar, was about sufficient for the performance of such a journey by the Vakeel, I think it may be concluded that Mr Jenkin's intelligence on the occasion was well founded, and that the Vakeel must have arrived in this vicinity along with the letters

It would appear that in March last, Holkar's emissaries and partisans were particularly active at this station and on the Kistna, and succeeded in establishing the most extravagant impression of Holkar's power, and that at that juncture most of the Mahratta Sirdars in the Deccan opened a correspondence with him, of a nature which might favour the interests, should his effort ultimately succeed against the British army, on such a plan. Goklah probably dispatched a Vakeel to him, whose return he has naturally taken means to conceal. The Patwardhan family has always kept a Vakeel with Sindia, who, of late, probably is also deputed to Holkar. This family jealous of the British prosperity carries on constant intrigues at this Durbar for the purpose of prevailing on the Peshwa to open an amicable correspondence with Sindia and Holkar.

Some of the Soukar houses in the city have lately received letters from their correspondents in Hindoostan, mentioning, that Sindia has dispatched Ballijee Komjee, Yeswant Rao Goorepeoreh, and Anabah Jadoo, on a mission to the Peshwa, that they had arrived at Kotah and that they were to be accompanied by Khandu Mahadoo on the part of Holkar. Should this Mission have actually taken place I shall hope to be honoured with an expression of your Lordship's pleasure whether the Vakeels, with their escort should be passed, or stopped, by Colōnel Wallace in Berar

Letter No. 9—In this letter Colonel Close informs Cornwallis of the anticipated arrival in Poona of the agents of Holkar and Sindhia, whom the Peshwa was unwilling to receive. He wants to inform Colonel Wallace to detain them at Burhanpur.

FROM—COLONEL L. B. CLOSE RESIDENT AT POONA,
TO—MARQUIS CORNWALLIS GOVERNOR GENERAL.

Poona the 11th September 1805

I have just received a communication from His Highness the Peshwa through his Dewan to the following effect: That His Highness having learnt that Ballajee Koonjur and Jeswant Rao Goreporch have left Sindhia's Camp on a Mission to the Poona Durbar and were to be joined by a Vakeel on the part of Jeswant Rao Holkar is desirous that those persons should not be permitted to come on to Poona but be stopped on the Frontier by Colonel Wallace unless it should be your Lordship's desire that they should be allowed to come on to this station. That His Highness has received no intimation whatever from Sindia or his Ministers or the other party respecting this Mission and cannot but suspect that it has been dispatched with some hostile or sinister view especially as for many months past Holkar's emissaries have been intriguing with almost all the Mahratta Sardars in the Deccan for the purpose of exciting them against the English and attaching them to his cause. That under such circumstance the arrival of the Mission at Poona might lead to much inconvenience and that in any event His Highness conceives that all matter of a public nature occurring for adjustment between his state and the Government of Sindia and Holkar must refer in the first instance to the British Government and not to the Poona Durbar and that accordingly His Highness is of opinion that it must be most secure and regular that the Mission should be halted on the Frontier, supposing that in the interval no orders respecting it should be received from Your Lordship and that should it ultimately be the wish of your Lordship that the Mission should be received it would be proper that the members of it should not be permitted to come on with an escort of troops but only with a few attendants.

As His Highness the Peshwa is thus indisposed to receive the Mission the arrival of which might be followed by the effects apprehended by His Highness I propose to write to Colonel Wallace desiring him to acquaint Ballajee Koonjur, and the other members of the Mission on their arrival at Burhanpore that they are not to cross the Frontier until they shall be apprized by him that they have permission to come on to their destination.

Letter No. 10—Colonel Close informs the Governor General that he would carry out his Resolution to abstain from interfering in the internal concerns of the Poona state. He also reports that the Raja of Kolhapur had afforded aid of troops to Hari Pant Bhawe a partizan of Jeswant Rao Holkar and that there have been desertions of troops in the army under Colonel Wallace due to the machinations of Holkar.

FROM—COLONEL B. CLOSE RESIDENT AT POONA
TO—MARQUIS CORNWALLIS GOVERNOR GENERAL.

Poona the 13th September 1805

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your commands signified in Mr Secretary Edmonstones dispatch of the 18th ultimo.

2 Your Lordship's reply to the Peshwa's proposition relative to Bundelkhund and Kalpee etc I shall communicate immediately to His Highness's Ministers and it shall be my duty to pursue your Lordship's

principles applicable to Mahratta affairs to the utmost extent that our political relations in this quarter of the Deccan will permit. Your Lordship's resolution to abstain from interfering in the internal concerns of the Poona state will I hope have the effect which your Lordship has in view by inducing His Highness to be more select in the choice of the persons to whom he commits the management of his affairs and to exert himself for the regulation of his Government and the suppression of the hostile intrigues of the confederates amongst his refractory Jagheerdars. From promises however which have been obtained from His Highness relative to those Jagheerdars he must consider himself as not at liberty to take any steps against them without the express concurrence of the British Government. Besides the military service which they are bound to render to the Poona Government, His Highness is desirous to recover certain lands from them of which they have surreptitiously obtained possession.

3 On the 7th instant, I learnt from Anand Rao and Bajee Naik that the Dewan had again applied to the Peshwa on the subject of the desired adjustment of the stipend for Anand Rao but that His Highness inflexibly adhered to the sentiments which he had formerly explained.

4 By late intelligence from the southward it appears that the Kolapore Raja has afforded considerable aid of troops to Hari Punt Bhawe a noted partisan of Jeswant Rao Holkar's and that under this support Bhawe is encamped near Miraj augmenting his force and calling on the neighbouring dessays to join his standard. Karim Saheb's son who fled Sringapatam is said to harbour on the Kolipore frontier and a rumour prevails that he is to be the ostensible head of Bhawe's force. I propose addressing the Raja of Kolhapore on the impropriety of his taking any part in favour of Bhawe who has long been numbered amongst the freebooters of the Deccan and whose object can only be general plunder.

5 Your Lordship is apprized of the desertions which took place not long since in Colonel Wallace's Camp, owing to the seducing arts of Holkar's emissaries. It is with great concern I have now to report, that on the night of the 11th instant 13 men of the 1st Battalion, 2nd Regiment at this station found means to desert and that there is reason to apprehend that they too have been seduced from their colours by the same means and have accordingly fled towards Holkar's Camp. Parties have been dispatched in pursuit of them and Lieut-Colonel Chalmers is using his utmost exertions to trace the secret intercourse by which they may have been inveigled from their duty.

Letter No 11.—Reports that a mission consisting of the Vakils from the Sindhia and Holkar was coming to the Peshwa's Court and that he had asked Colonel Wallace to stop them at the frontier in view of the fact that a hostile correspondence was going on for some time by the partisans of the Sindhia and Holkar throughout the Deccan.

FROM—COLONEL B CLOSE, RESIDENT AT POONA,

TO—MARQUIS CORNWALLIS, GOVERNOR-GENERAL

Poona, the 6th October 1805

A letter from Balajee Koonjur has been received at the Peshwa's Durbar, intimating, for His Highness's information that he and the other Vakeels from Sindhia and Holkar, had arrived at Mhaisur on the Nurbuddah, and requesting, that directions might be forwarded to Colonel Wallace and to the Vinchoor Jagheerdar desiring them to permit

the Mission to pass on to the Durbar. This circumstance was reported to me this morning, by Byjee Naik at the desire of the Peshwa, who as Byjee Naik told me was still unwilling that the Vakeels should be permitted to come on apprehending that their proceedings here might afford ground for suspicions which might be injurious to the connection which holds between the Honourable Company and His Highness's Government.

I replied that at His Highness's express desire I had requested Colonel Wallace to detain the Mission on the frontier till your Lordship's Instructions should be received respecting it but that if in consequence of the letter from Ballajee Koonjur His Highness was now desirous that the Vakeels should be permitted to advance I should revoke my dispatch to Colonel Wallace, for their detention. To this measure Byjee Naik gave no encouragement stating only that he should communicate what I had observed to the Peshwa.

After some immaterial conversation Byjee Naik adverted to the clandestine correspondence which was discovered in Poona a few months since by Khande Rao Rustiah and afterwards investigated by Captain Sydenham and then observed that the Cabal detected by that correspondence so far from being abated had of late greatly increased. That according to intelligence recently received a hostile correspondence was carried on by the partisans of the confederates throughout the Deccan. That the Raja of Kolhapore, Ragonrut Rao Maunja and Hurry Punt Bhaye were at the head of this cabal on the Kistna. That Ragotim Rao was the leader of it at Hyderabad and Nana Salub at Nagpur. That His Highness Secunder Jah was partial to Ragotim Rao and wished to rid himself of Meer Allum and that should the confederates be able to make their way to the Deccan the Cabal would be prepared to operate in their favour. I wished to ascertain from Byjee Naik whence he procured this information, and succeeded so far as to learn that part of it referred to letters received from the Southward by Khande Rao Rustiah. That Hurry Punt Bhaye's proceedings at Kolapore are much talked of in that neighbourhood appeared by a letter which I lately received from Colonel Sir William Clarke and of which I enclose a copy for your Lordship's inspection.

I am concerned to acquaint your Lordship that although I have on different occasions of late renewed the subject of the required adjustment of the stipends for Amrut Rao and his followers I have not received any reply from the Peshwa's Ministers calculated to afford any hope that His Highness will accede to the proposals which have been made to him on that subject. It is my intention therefore to avoid a further renewal of the question until I shall be honoured with your Lordship's sentiments on the manner in which it has been received by His Highness.

Letter No. 12.—Colonel Close reports the sentiments of the Peshwa about the Mission sent by the Holkar and Sindhia to his Court and that in spite of the eagerness of the members of the missions to meet him he has asked them to wait pending the receipt of the Governor General's direction.

FROM—COLONEL CLOSE RESIDENT AT POONA
TO—MARQUIS CORNWALLIS GOVERNOR GENERAL

Poona the 17th October 1805

I have the honour to transmit a copy of a letter which I have received from Colonel Wallace copies of the Mahratta and Persian correspondence

to which it refers, I have forwarded to the Persian Secretary to Government. The substance of the several letters I have communicated to the Peshwa, and His Highness has informed me in reply, that he is still desirous that the Mission should be detained on the frontier, until your Lordship's pleasure shall be known, respecting it. His Highness conveyed an assurance to me at the same time that had the Mission been resolved on by Sindia and Holkar in concert with your Lordship's Resident at Sindiah's Court and been accordingly dispatched for the adjustment of any common object, he would have been prepared to receive it with the utmost satisfaction.

I have received a few lines from Jeswant Rao Goreporah intimating that he had reached Burhanpore, and that Sindia had sent him to me. In reply I have informed him that I had addressed your Lordship on the subject of the Mission, and requested that he would be guided by the communications which he should receive from Colonel Wallace.

I have the pleasure to acquaint your Lordship, that the Peshwa has relieved his manager of the Sovenore province whose conduct had been so improper in various instances and nominated a person in his room who, from his character and experience promises to do justice to the situation.

His Highness proposes to make an excursion soon to Punderpore in order, to be present at a festival which is about to be celebrated there.

I formerly mentioned to your Lordship that 13 sepoy's had deserted from Lieut-Colonel Chalmers Battalion at this station, and that it was apprehended that they had been seduced from their colours by some person in the interest of Jeswant Rao Holkar. Of these men two soon returned to their Corps and three have been taken and although their flight seems to have been favoured by a Patan in Poona it does not appear that they had any intercourse with any person connected with Holkar.

Volume 6—Enclosure to Letter No 22

Camp at Futtypoor, the 7th October 1805

To

COLONEL CLOSE

SIR

I have the honour to transmit to you the copies of letters which I have today received from Balajee Koonjur and Jeswant Rao Goreporah, and of my reply thereto.

The wish that the Vakeels express of being permitted to come on to this Camp, I shall continue to resist and shall unless, I receive contrary instructions, prevent their passing the frontier.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

W WALLACE.

Letter No 13—The writer reports that the Peshwa had left Poona for a visit to certain places on the Godavary to make some arrangements for the protection of the districts adjacent to those places

**FROM—B CLOSE RESIDENT AT POONA,
TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL**

Poona, the 4th January 1806

His Highness the Peshwa has proceeded on his proposed excursion to the Godavery. He is escorted by at least 3000 Cavalry and 2000 Infantry with six field pieces and at his request I have written to the Officer Commanding at Ahmednagar directing him to station a Native Detachment with a field piece at a position on the Poka road where the Bhels used formerly to assemble. This measure I directed merely in compliance with His Highness's desire as his escort is certainly strong enough, to be an over match for all the Bhels or robbers who could assemble on the Godavery.

His Highness will visit Copergaum and Nasik and make some arrangements for the protection of the districts adjacent to those places. It is expected that he will return to his Capital in six weeks or two months. In his absence the business of Government is conducted as usual by the Dewan with whom he has left Goklah and his troops.

Letter No 14—Colonel Close writes about the tour of the Peshwa and the disturbances in Suvaroor due to the activities of some Chieftains

**FROM—COLONEL CLOSE RESIDENT AT POONA
TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL**

Poona the 27th February 1806

The Treaty of peace concluded between the Honourable Company and Jeswant Rao Holkar having appeared in the Calcutta Gazette of the 6th instant I judged it expedient to communicate the substance of it to the Dewan who acquainted me in reply that he would send an intimation on the subject to His Highness the Peshwa. By late accounts from His Highness he continued at Copergaum and as he proposes to visit Peytun he cannot be expected to return hither before the 16th of next month.

By intelligence received yesterday from the Southward it appears that the adherents of Lago the late Sir Soobah of Savenore had attacked and defeated a party belonging to the present Sir Soobah taking from them two guns some horses and baggage. The town of Savenore still continues in the hands of the rebels who it may be apprehended begin to derive assistance secretly from the Dessaye of Dummul the Polligar of Nargoond and other Zamindars south of the Kistna.

Letter No 15—Close writes about a dispute in the family of the Pratnldhi and its effect on the Poona state and its internal affairs

**FROM—COLONEL CLOSE RESIDENT AT POONA
TO—THE GOVERNOR GENERAL**

Poona the 1st March 1806

This morning I received a visit from a Karkoon belonging to Chintaman Rao who presented me with a letter from his master, of which I transmit a copy to the Secretary in the Persian Department for your notice.

alliance were that the enemies of either side, were to be regarded as the enemies of both, and that the contracting parties were to assist each other in the event of the Raja's territories being attacked on the one side or the Honourable Company's new acquisitions on the other that at an urgent period of the late war with Holkar the Raja had failed to perform his engagements, and that accordingly you, Honourable Sir, had judged it expedient, as a matter of propriety and justice to withdraw the alliance and that as you had addressed a letter to the Raja at Jaipore specifying the grounds on which you had taken that measure you had caused copies of it to be transmitted to the different British Residents in order that the substance of it might be explained to the native courts at which they respectively resided that the letter was written in Persian but that His Highness might be enabled to peruse it, I had caused a literal translation to be made of it in the Malirathi language Sadashiv Mankeshwar observed that a perusal of the letter would no doubt be very satisfactory to the Peshwa I then caused the translation to be read, and found that it was accurately comprehended both by Mankeshwar and Krishnajeel Bhiawani They both expressed their regret that the Raja of Jaipore should have been so heedless and faulty as to have failed in his engagements and thus forfeited an alliance which was doubtless necessary for the safety of his state Krishnajeel Bhiawani enquired whether any reply had been received to the address I said that I was not informed on the subject Mankeshwar then observed that the Raja of Jaipore had a Government to guide and protect that without the support of the Honourable Company it would be exposed to danger and that he would of course apologize to the British Government for his past conduct and solicit a continuance of the alliance Here I presented the translation to Mankeshwar who receiving it said that should be submitted to the Peshwa, with a communication of what I had stated

Sadashiv Mankeshwar now informed me that if I had not requested an interview he would have found it necessary to have paid me a visit in order to converse with me on some points by desire of the Peshwa The restitution which was to be made to Holkar he said would bear hard upon the Peshwa's finances The Vinchoor Jagheerdar had been desired to increase his troops for the defence of Khandesh and had borrowed money for the purpose as well as to make advances for promoting the cultivation of the province which he had hoped would become so fruitful as to enable him to discharge his debts and to indemnify him for all his disbursements The approaching restitution however, would deprive him of the fund on which he had so confidently depended He then proceeded to state that in this difficulty the Vinchoor Jagheerdar had begun to importune the Durbar to assist him with funds by which to satisfy his creditors and meet the demands of his troops a part of whom it would be necessary to discharge that how to find means to render this aid was extremely embarrassing to His Highness's Government That a long account remained to be settled between the Poona state and Gaikwar Raja That the demands of the Poona state on certain of the territories of the Hyderabad Government were never properly realized and that independent of other points several districts the entire property of the Poona state were retained in possession by the Patwardhan family and that of Rastiah That in endeavouring to devise means to relieve the Vinchoor Jagheerdar from his present embarrassments the Peshwa had expressed a hope that the Gaikwar Raja might be induced to discharge a part of the balance that would appear upon enquiry to be due by him and also that some assistance might be derived to the Poona Government by an investigation into its claims on that of Hyderabad I replied, that the several claims he had adverted to could not be investigated without much time and that when pretensions were of such old standing the result of an examination into them might

well be considered as doubtful, that the Gaikwar Government seemed to think he would suffer little by a fair settlement of his accounts with the Poona Durbar, and that His Highness the Soobahdar seemed to be as sanguine of benefit from an investigation of the disputed claims as the Peshwa, that it was stipulated that the British Government should arbitrate between the two states, and adjust the points in difference, and that the arbitration would take place as soon as leisure should permit. Sadashiv Mankeshwar now adverted to the fort and districts of Ahmednagar, observed, that the season had arrived at which both the fort and territory connected, might be delivered over to the Peshwa's Government, and that it would be very satisfactory to His Highness if the transfer should now be ordered to take place. In answer I pointed out to the Dewan that the fort of Ahmednagar was still occupied by us as a Magazine, that it contained a considerable quantity of Military stores and provisions for the use of the Poona Subsidiary Force stationed in its neighbourhood, and that, under such circumstances it was evident, that the transfer of this post could not take place at this period with any convenience to the general interests, that although the transfer of the territory, connected with the fort, might be subject for consideration, it was still to be remembered that, according to the correspondence of the British Government, the transfer was to be deferred till circumstances should afford satisfactory grounds of lasting general tranquillity, and that on this account, it might be considered as eligible that the existing arrangement should continue until every part of the Treaty with Holkar should be carried into effect. Mankeshwar assured me, that the Peshwa would be ever disposed to make sacrifices for the general convenience, but at the same time trusted, that the British Government would not allow the transfer of the districts belonging to Ahmednagar to be any longer deferred, that the delivery of them to the Poona state at this season, could not fail to make impressions generally of a nature highly favourable to the credit of His Highness's Government. That with respect to the fort, as it was still wanted for the Poona Subsidiary Force, His Highness would be satisfied for the present, if such appearance should be permitted as should indicate openly, that the place was the acknowledged property of the Poona state, and that, this object would be attained by arranging so as that a Karkoon from this Durbar, attended by 20 or 30 peons, should be permitted to reside in the fort of Ahmednagar, and be allowed to hoist the Peshwa's colours on the works.

I told the Dewan that while the fort continued to be occupied by the British Troops no division of authority could possibly be permitted in the place. To this he replied readily that he did not mean that anything more should be settled than that the Pettah and districts of Ahmednagar should be transferred to the Peshwa's authority and that a Karkoon should be permitted to reside in the fort, merely for the purpose above specified. I replied that I was not master of the Peshwa's wishes on the subject, that I should communicate them to you, Honourable Sir, and make the Durbar acquainted when I should be honoured with your reply.

Letter No 17 —Close reports that the Peshwa after the death of his wife Savitri Bai had married another lady on the 10th June. The lady was from Wai and distantly related to the Rastia family.

FROM—COLONEL B CLOSE, RESIDENT AT POONA,

TO—THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL, FORT WILLIAM,

Poona, 15th June 1806

In my dispatch to Mr Secretary Edmonstone of the 9th instant, I had the honour to mention the information I had received of His Highness the Peshwa having resolved to enter again into the connubial state.

His Highness I understand had arranged for making an excursion to Pundarpore with the view of being present at a festival which is soon to occur there and determined not to celebrate his marriage until next spring. At the earnest recommendation however of the principal Bramins at the Durbar he was prevailed on to alter his intention and avail himself of the present season, which was nearly expired but was held to be peculiarly auspicious. A young lady from a respectable Bramhin family at Vasse distantly connected with the house of Rastiah was the object of his choice. On the 10th instant his nuptials commenced and were celebrated with all the splendour and demonstration of joy which the short period left for preparation would permit. During the festivities His Highness was presented with Nuzzers by the different Sardars at Poona. Yesterday evening I proceeded to offer my congratulations to him accompanied by the gentlemen of the Residency. We were received by him in full Durbar and entertained with Music and Dancing and a repast prepared in the Bramhin style. During the entertainment I presented him with gifts and as night approached we took our leave.

Letter No 18—This letter contains an enclosure which is a copy of the letter written by Close to the Governor General. In this letter he reports his conversation with the Peshwa and his brother regarding the possibility of a reconciliation between them.

FROM—COLONEL B CLOSE RESIDENT AT POONA
TO—M ELPHINSTON RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

Poona the 20th November 1806

I have the honour to forward for your information a copy of my last address No 21 to the Honourable the Governor General

To

THE HONOURABLE SIR G H BARLOW BART

HONOURABLE SIR

When His Highness the Peshwa returned last from Pandharpur he acquainted me by message that it has been his intention to invite me and the gentlemen of the Residency on an entertainment on the occasion of his nuptials. That as he could not delay his visit to Pandharpur he was prevented from carrying his intention into effect. That he was still occupied by various engagements but that at his earliest leisure he would prepare for having the pleasure of our company at his favourite garden on the skirt of the city. On the 7th instant I was visited by Anand Rao Mulhar and Byajee Naik who informed me that they were deputed by His Highness to invite me and the gentlemen of the Residency to an entertainment at the Heera Bagh on the afternoon of the ensuing day.

2 We accordingly waited on His Highness at the time appointed. He received us with great attention and after addressing some obliging expressions to me signified his wish to withdraw to an adjoining room whither I followed him accompanied by Mr Waring. I anticipated that his purpose was to renew the subject of the desired adjustment with his brother Chimnaee Annah. On taking his seat he immediately referred to the conversation which formerly had with Sedashiv Mankeeshwar and expressed himself as perfectly satisfied with the sentiments which I had then explained. He said he was sensible of the advantages which would

accrue should a settlement take place between him and his brother without a reference to me, or even permitting the subject to become public, but added that time had passed sufficient to convince him, that without the aid of my mediation, the object of a permanent adjustment was not practicable. Here I interposed to observe, that I had made a particular report of what had passed at my former interview with Sadashiv Mankeshwar, to the Honourable the Governor-General, who had since confirmed all that I had urged on that occasion, his fullest approbation, and that as it was palpable that a permanent reconciliation could not rest on any basis so secure as that of mutual confidence, I trusted His Highness would be induced to take some step personally to ascertain the cause of the dissatisfaction manifested by his brother, and afterwards apply the most suitable remedy to remove it. His Highness still insisted that all endeavours, on his part for the purpose, would be vain, that the assistance of a mediator who had the confidence of both parties, was indispensable, that formerly when a settlement was necessary between the Poona state and the widow of Nana Furnaveese, General Sir Arthur Wellesley, interposed his good offices and an agreement took place, which continued in force affording equal satisfaction to each of the parties that similar good offices were now wanting and would not, he trusted, be withheld, I then requested His Highness would do me the honour to let me know what, in his opinion, was the cause of the umbrage entertained by his brother. To this request His Highness replied with reluctance. After some hesitation he said that he could not bring himself to speak unfavourably of a brother for whom he had so high a consideration. That he naturally felt the greatest delicacy towards him and hoped I would perceive that the question I had offered could be replied to with a better grace from any other quarter. After allowing the conversation to subside a little, I again ventured a trial to draw an opinion from His Highness as to the motive of his brother's dissatisfaction, and succeeded so far, that His Highness at length insinuated, that his ancestors had not been quite free from the habits of disagreeing, that I myself was not unacquainted with the history of the Peshwa's family and that, it might be that his brother who was young, might have a Military turn, and be disposed to an active life. This insinuation, I allowed to pass without notice but expressed my apprehension, that the Honourable the Governor-General would be greatly disappointed, should His Highness fail to reconcile his brother's mind without my interference. This observation had no effect, and His Highness continued to urge me to interpose, with so much earnestness that I apprehended, that should I still decline to acquiesce, he might imbibe the notion, that I had become indifferent to his objects and interests. I therefore told him, that in declining to acquiesce in his wish so long I had it in view only to recommend what appeared to me to be most conducive to the credit of his house and the advantage of his state, that a reconciliation between him and his brother was certainly a very urgent object, and that as he continued to entertain the conviction that my mediation was indispensable to its attainment, I should be prepared to pay my respects to his brother at any time that might be appointed. His Highness now appeared to be much gratified. We returned to the room we had left and were afterwards entertained with a repast and singing and dancing and as the evening advanced, His Highness presented us with gifts, when we took our leave.

3 On the 14th instant, the Peshwa had a short interview with his brother when it was ascertained, that the latter was well disposed to receive a visit from me. I accordingly desired the head native servant of the Residency to wait on him with my respects, to express my regret that so long a period had passed without offering any occasion, by which I could personally make enquiries after his welfare, and that with his permission I should have the honour of paying my respects to him. He

returned to a polite answer appointing this morning at 7 O'clock as the hour at which he would be prepared to receive me. I accordingly waited on him at that time accompanied by Waring and was received by him with great politeness.

I delicately introduced the purpose of my visit and after a conversation of some length learned from his professions that he retained a proper regard for the Peshwa whom he mentioned with great respect and attributed the change of habits, which had taken place between him and His Highness to improper views, and practice on the part of his principal individuals near His Highness's person (Sadashiv Mankeshwar) that he had no desire to interfere in the conduct of the Poona Government but expected that His Highness would make a suitable provision for him agreeably to the practice of the family on terms which should allow him to be independent of His Highness's servants.

5 Having collected these points from his statements I observed that I experienced the greatest satisfaction at finding that no real difference had occurred between him and His Highness for whom he had always manifested so warm a regard and that if the happy intercourse which had so long subsisted between them had been affected of late it was highly gratifying to me to perceive that their sentiments towards each other continued unaltered and that under these circumstances it might be attended with desirable consequences were I to be informed to what precise object his views were directed as should it appear that I might be useful he might command my best exertions.

6 After speaking warmly in praise of the British Government and addressing some complimentary expressions to me he proceeded to excuse himself from stating any precise arrangement that would answer for him observing that His Highness was his superior and that it ought to be left to him in the first instance to offer his ideas on the subject that after His Highness's sentiments should be known he should send me a communication through Byajee Naik and that afterwards he would be happy to have another interview with me. Finding that he adhered to this line of proceeding I yielded my assent to it. He then paid us the attentions usual at parting when we withdrew.

Byajee Naik who was present at the interview has of course reported what passed to His Highness from whom it is probable I shall receive a communication on the subject tomorrow or next day.

I have the honour to be

Sir

Your Most obedient humble servant

POONA

The 17th Nov. 1806

B CLOSE

Resident at Poona

Letter N^o 19.—The enclosure to this letter conveys the information that the Peshwa had agreed to grant a stipend of two lacs a year to his brother and the latter was satisfied with it. Thus a settlement has been effected between the Peshwa and his brother.

FROM—COLONEL B CLOSE RESIDENT AT POONA

TO—M ELPHINSTONE RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

Poona 18th December 1806

I have the honour to enclose for your information a copy of my address No 23 to the Hon^{ble} the Governor General

To

THE HON'BLE THE SIR G H BARLOW BART,
GOVERNOR-GENERAL

HONOURABLE SIR,

I have the honour to intimate, that a settlement has finally taken place between His Highness the Peshwa and his brother Chimnaje Appah. I learned indirectly from Byajee Naik, that His Highness was willing to grant a stipend to his brother of a lac and 50,000 rupees per annum, and might be induced to grant even two lacs should it appear that his brother would be fully satisfied with such liberal allowance. Possessed of this information, I procured an interview with Chimnaje Appah, and after some conversation, ascertained from him, that he would be entirely satisfied with a stipend of two lacs, provided it should be regularly discharged, and His Highness should observe a demeanour towards him suitable to his rank and connection. In reply I said it could not be doubted that His Highness would abide by such settlement as should be adjusted, and that, as I should probably have an interview with His Highness shortly, I should make such explanations to him as the occasion required. He appeared to be satisfied with this communication, and after some further discourse he observed that, he had always acted with truth and fidelity towards His Highness, that he would continue to do so, having no desire to interfere in the concerns of his Government, and wished that I would now consider circumstances to be the same as if no symptoms of variance had ever occurred between him and his brother. Here the interview closed. The ensuing day, I had the honour of waiting on His Highness, when after some discussion, a settlement with his brother was agreed on, as detailed in the enclosed memorandum.

The first kist was sent to Chimnaje Appah yesterday, and it may be hoped, that as His Highness has behaved liberally to his brother in fixing so handsome a stipend for him, the agreement which has been adjusted between them, will be lasting.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

B CLOSE,

Resident at Poona

Poona:

17th December 1806

MISCELLANEOUS

Letter No 1—Colonel Close desires information about one Fattch Ally and encloses copies of letters received from Buchan and Wilks. These enclosures Nos 3 and 4 throw light on the career of some contemporary figures as also on certain important matters.

FROM—COLONEL CLOSE RESIDENT AT POONA
TO—M ELPHINSTON, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

Poona, dated the 20th October 1805

I have the honour to enclose for your information a copy of a dispatch which I lately received from the Resident in Mysore. It may be desirable to ascertain by a private mode of enquiry whether Fattch Ally is subsisted or patronized by the Raja of Nagpur and whether he resides in the vicinity of that Capital and if not where he is supposed to reside at present.

TO—COLONEL BARRY CLOSE RESIDENT AT POONA

SIR

I have the honour to enclose for your information a copy of a letter received from the Chief Secretary to Government at Fort St George regarding a person seized in the Ceded Districts who appears to be connected with Fattch Ally whom your information places at this time in the territory of Kolhapore. I also enclose a copy of my reply to this letter.

I have the honour to be
Sir

MYSORE
4th October 1805

Your most obedient humble servant
M WILKS
Acting Resident

TO—MAJOR WILKS ACTING RESIDENT IN MYSORE

SIR

I am directed by the Right Honourable the Governor General and Council to enclose for your information the copy of a report which has been received from the Paymaster of Stipends at Vellore on the subject of a person of suspicious character who has been placed under restraint by the Officer Commanding in the Ceded Districts.

2 His Lordship in Council desires in particular to draw your attention to the concluding part of the report and I am directed to state His Lordship's wish to be furnished with any documents of a material nature which may be connected with the investigation relative to supposed embezzlements referred to by the Paymaster of Stipends.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant

FORT ST GEORGE
The 25th September 1805

G. BUCHAN
Chief Secretary to Government

TO—THE CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT.
FORT ST GEORGE

SIR,

I was last night honoured with your letter of the 3rd instant enclosing copy of a letter from the Secretary to the Commander-in-Chief, accompanied by some original documents, to which it referred, and desiring I would state information respecting the two persons connected with the family of the late Tippoo Sultan, who appear to have been engaged in a correspondence with the enemies of the British Government

Before I attempt an elucidation of the subject, I have to beg you will state for the information of the Right Hon'ble the Governor in Council, that I have much satisfaction in observing that no part of the family of the late Tippoo Sultan residing at Vellore, or at all under the protection of the British Government, are in any manner implicated in the correspondence enclosed to me, either mediately or immediately

Ignorance or inattention has led the person, who registered the original documents to translate not as a Ferman from Futtah Hyder, son of the late Tippoo Sultan, dated 29th Zilkaud 1257 The highest inspection however will show how unjust such an accusation is against the Prince Futta Hyder

This Ferman is published by Padshah Futtah Ally granting to Mirza Mohiuddin Beg, the Government of one-fourth of his kingdom and authorizing his conquering and taking possession of it with certain privileges, etc

This paper being the least obscure I shall first endeavour to explain by whom it is written and to whom upon the certitude of which the elucidation of the other papers will greatly depend

Futtah Ally, the person granting this Sunnad, is the son of Karim Saheb, brother to the late Tippoo Sultan I am confirmed in this opinion not only by the name, but by my acquaintance with his seal and handwriting

Futtah Ally, labouring like his father, under temporary derangement, walked away from Seringapatam in 1801, and traversing the Polygar countries of Bul, etc, reached those of the petty Mahratta Chiefs, South of Poona, where he remained, in the neighbourhood of Shahpoor until the advance of the British Army under General Wellesley.

He is said then to have taken protection with the Nagpur Chief and is believed to be at present at or near that city living in great obscurity and poverty

Had General Wellesley deemed his apprehension of any consequence it is probable he might easily have been taken up

After the peace with Sindia the Vakeels of the latter gave information to General Wellesley of all the Agents they had employed to raise disturbances in the British possessions and amongst the rest, mentioned their having attempted to employ this Boy Futta Ally, but that his want of capacity and energy had rendered him totally unfit for such purposes

It is probable and the date of the Sunnad No 1 confirms the idea that it was about this period the name of Futtah Ally was made use of, and applied to the Ferman in question

Although some correspondence forwarded to Government by Lieutenant Colonel Doll as will show that there have been impostors assuming the names of the Princes, and degrees of affinity to Tippoo Sultan's family,

I have no hesitation in declaring from the most authentic information that with the exception of Futtah Ally above mentioned, there is not at large any branch of the family whose name could be used informing a party round which to rally the adherents of the late Sultan

I will now endeavour to explain to whom the Firman No 1 was granted but in doing this, I shall have some difficulty. Had it been in my power to see and question the prisoner Mirza Mohiuddin Beg I could have spoken of him with certainty but I can at present only form my opinion from the vague correspondence enclosed for my perusal. He is described as having been a Sirdar of importance under Tippoo Sultan

The only person of that name coming near the description is Mirza Mohiuddin Beg son of Mirza Abdulla Beg formerly of Dindigul under Syed Sahib

Abdulla Beg being discharged by Syed Sahib proceeded to Tippoo and was by him first made Joudar of Mudgherry on the borders of Koorah and afterwards Killadar of Seringapatam

Tippoo sent him as his Vakeel to Poona, and on his return made him Bucksly of Sowar Kutchiree. On the fall of Seringapatam Abdulla Beg and his two sons Akbar Beg and Mohiuddin Beg accompanied Kurnuruddin Khan to Gurrunkonda.

Mohiuddin Beg about the period of the date of the Farman, was Killadar of Pilcer towards the Mahratta Frontier. The father Abdulla Beg and one if not both of the sons entered the service of Poorniah Dewan of Mysore. I cannot however ascertain that Mohiuddin Beg has ever openly joined the Mahrattas as many other Sirdars did

This is the only person of that name of sufficient consequence in Tippoo Sultan's service to whom the Farman can allude. The prisoner however may have only assumed the name

I shall now proceed to the other documents. Nos 2 3 and 4 are all in the handwriting of the same person whom I shall mention hereafter. A strong inference is to be drawn from the purport of them that they were written in the name of the above mentioned Futtah Ally recommending the same Mirza Mohiuddin Beg to whom he had granted the Firman as his accredited envoy and Agent to the three persons to whom the letters are addressed and who appear to be Agents or Ministers to Mahratta Chiefs for neither do address signature or seal is attached to any of them

In these letters the writer alludes to the force of 600 horse, as belonging to himself and requests money to advance them

In No 2 after mentioning the Peace of Badamee between Tippoo Sultan and the Mahrattas he alludes to himself as for a descendant from Hyder and Tippoo without specifying the exact degree of affinity and by No 3 Hyder Ally appears his father and Tippoo Sultan his brother

From a remarkable similarity in the handwriting diction and construction of whole sentences to that in other letters in my possession I have little doubt but Nos 2 3 and 4 were penned by Mohammed Sadik who is now residing at Nagpur

Mohammed Sadik is son of Mohammed Ibrahim (once Vakeel to Boomraj and was carried from the Karnatick by Hyder Ally Khan) He has since remained in Mysore and became a Sarfar under Kamruddin Khan whom he accompanied to Gurrunkonda after the fall of Seringa

patam He was appointed Dewan, and had as his Deputy Abdulla Beg, the father of Mirza Mohiuddin Beg Mohammed Sadik was sent to Hyderabad, under the protection of Meer Allum, but returned on Kamruddin Khan's death to settle the affairs of the Jagheer at Gurrumkonda, after which he offered his services to the Nagpur Raja and has served him ever since

I understand he has lately sent for his family from Boomraj's country, where he had hitherto left them.

From his long intimacy with Mohiuddin Beg in the service of Kumaruddin, and the probability of Futtah Ally having claimed his friendship at Nagpur, my conjecture of his being the writer of these three letters, may receive some confirmation.

These three letters having been found upon the person of Mohiuddin Beg, would make it probable that they were never delivered to the persons to whom they introduced him as an envoy, and by the subsequent correspondence Nos 5, 6 and 7, it is evident that Mohiuddin Beg, instead of an Agent or Envoy, had become a Principal, without the least allusion to Futtah Ally or any other patron Nos 5 and 6 are from Peshkars of Jeswant Rao Holkar and No 7 from that Chief himself, all instigating him to join the Mahratta Army as soon as possible, with what troops he may have assembled, when he will be received into the service on the same terms as the other Sirdars of Horse.

The want of date to any of these letters will make it difficult to determine whether they were written on Holkar's advance to Poona after defeating Sindia (which is most probable from mention being made in No 6 of the Army's going to Khandesh) or on his subsequent rupture with the British since the peace with Sindia

No 12 contains drafts of letters evidently from Fakruddin (brother of the late Kamruddin Khan) to the Nagpur Raja in one of which Mohiuddin Beg is recommended as having held great appointments under Tippoo Sultan How these drafts came into Mohiuddin Beg's hand, will be difficult to determine, but from the whole of the letters found upon him, I think a conjecture might be formed, that although he may have made frequent attempts to obtain money from the different Mahratta Chiefs, under the pretence of raising Troops and causing diversions in their favour, it is probable he never joined their Army.

I have mentioned above that the Vakeels of Sindia gave information to General Wellesley of their secret Agents, this I understand, led to the process against some of those Agents in the Court of Seringapatam A perusal of those proceedings will throw considerable light upon the conduct and views of Futtah Ally above mentioned I take the liberty of suggesting the propriety of my being furnished with extracts from those proceedings or, or even with the names of the parties on whom the strongest suspicions fell, that I may be enabled to watch their motions, should they come to reside in the Karnatic which is not improbable

I fear my wish to afford His Lordship in Council every information in my power may have led me to enter more fully into the general subject than was required and I have especially to fear that a mistake in the identity of Mohiuddin Beg's person may have led me to misapply my conjectures In either case I have only to trust as my apology the want of data upon which to found my enquiries.

VELLORE

THOMAS MARRIOTT,

The 9th August 1805

Paymaster of Stipends.

TO—GEORGE BUCHAN ESQUIRE, CHIEF SECRETARY TO
GOVERNMENT

SIR,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 25th September

2 I have made application to the Magistrate at Seringapatam for a copy of the proceedings instituted in that Court in consequence of which Hyder Hussain Khan son of the Nabob of Savanoor by the sister of the late Tippoo Sultan was removed from Seringapatam to Vellore, and shall have the honour to forward hereafter a copy of that document

3 In the meanwhile I have the honour to inform you that I have this day conversed with Mirza Mohiuddin Beg the person whose history and connection is accurately described in Major Marriot's report with his father Abdulla Beg and with three other sons all in the service of the Government of Mysore and considered to be a trustworthy and respectable family and that they are unacquainted with any other person of the name of Mohiuddin Beg who accompanied Kamruddin to Gurramkonda although many persons of that name were in the service of the late Sultan

4 I proceed to state such information as I possess regarding the other persons who appear to be principally implicated in the documents found on the person calling himself Mohiuddin Beg

5 The Dewan of Kamruddin Khan was Mohammed Baker, son of Buddru Zeman Khan now residing at Seringapatam and not Mohammed Saig who was employed as stated in the report as Kamruddin's Vakeel of Hyderabad The nominal office of Dewan held by this person was under Meer Mahamood the brother of Kamruddin and only legitimate son of Meer Saheb the maternal uncle of Tippoo Sultan

6 After the death of Kamruddin Meer Mohammed proceeded with the other claimants for the succession to that Jagheer to Madras where they erroneously supposed their pretensions would be recognized because in the mean time the districts forming the Jagheer of the deceased had been transferred by Treaty to the Company

7 Their pretensions to a Jagheer (whatever they might be) under the Treaty of partition were on the Nizam and the lands formerly composing the Jagheer were included in the valuation of the districts ceded to the Company by the Subsidiary Treaty of Hyderabad

8 Meer Mohammed having failed in the object of his journey to Madras, proceeded with Mohammed Sadik as his Dewan to Hyderabad where having also failed they travelled to Nagpur and were received into the service of the Raja with about 200 Horse

9 For some time before the commencement of hostilities between the English Army and the Mahratta Chiefs Meer Mohammed was considered by the confederates to be a fit person to excite internal commotions in Mysore and a detachment was actually appointed for the purpose when Futtah Ally the son of Kareem Sahib arrived at the camp of Raja of Berar

10 Mohammed Sadio expecting that the office of Dewan would prove more profitable under the Futtah Ally than under Meer Mohammed represented to the Bhonsla's Durbar that the name of the grandson of Hyder would command greater influence among the Mussalmans of Mysore than that of his nephew and accordingly procured the command for himself as

Dewan under the nominal direction of Futtah Ally. In the mean time General Wellesley pressed the Bhonsla's Army so closely as to defeat the whole plan. After the peace Meer Mohammed left the service of Nagpur in disgust, and proceeded to Mangalore with the intention of making the pilgrimage to Mecca, but being disappointed in a passage, returned by Seringapatam where I saw him in April last on his way to the neighbourhood of Gurrumkonda apparently in very distressed circumstances.

11 By recent intelligence received from the Resident at Poona I understand that Futtah Ally is at this time in the territory of the Raja of Kolhapore, and that a report prevails of a design to make use of his name at the head of a force which is now levying near Meritch under Hurry Punt Bhawe, a noted freebooter who appears to be equally supported by the hostile House of Kolhapore and the Putwardhans. I do not know whether Mohammed Sadiq is still with Futtah Ally.

12 I have stated the facts which relate to Futtah Ally, Mohammed Sadiq and Meer Mohammed, chiefly on the verbal authority of the latter. Although possessing at that time no official situation, I took considerable pains to ascertain through various channels the supposed mission of Meer Mohammed from the Mahratta Confederacy to the Court of France by way of Mecca, but could trace no fact tending to confirm that supposition.

13. It appears to be due to this person that I should state that he accompanied Meer Kamruddin Khan to Gurrumkonda. As a branch of the family whose maintenance by Jagheer was allotted by Treaty to the Nizam, that on the entire failure of that resource, and the continuance of the pecuniary stipend from the Company to Kamruddin, as a provision for the son and family of that Chief Meer Mohammed, the only legitimate son of the maternal uncle of the late Tippoo Sultan, became entirely destitute that the late Governor, The Right Hon'ble Lord Clive, on ascertaining these facts, directed me to converse with Meer Mohammed then supposed to be at Madras for the purpose of discovering his intentions with the view of eventually providing for him from the fund allotted for the maintenance of the family of late Tippoo Sultan, and that making the requisite enquiries in conformity to H's Lordship's orders I found that Meer Mohammed had departed from Madras and from the Hon'ble Company's territory as already related.

MYSORE

The 4th October 1805

M^r WILKS,

Acting Resident at Mysore

Letter No 2.—The letter intimates Elphinstone of the defiant and even rebellious attitude of the Khurdha Raja towards the British Government.

FROM—N B EDMONSTONE, SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,
TO—M S ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

Fort William, 13th November 1804

At an early period of time after the establishment of the British authority in the Province of Cuttack, the conduct of the Raja of Khoorda (one of the principal tributary Rajas upon territory is comprised within the limits of the province) excited considerable doubts of the sincerity of his professed allegiance to the British Government. The subsequent proceedings of the Raja of Khoorda have been of a nature not only to

confirm those doubts but to constitute acts of positive hostility against the British Government and to render indispensably necessary the adoption of measures of severity against the Raja of Khoorda

2 At any early period of time after the conquest of Cuttack the Raja of Khoorda demanded the restoration of five *pargunnahs*, in one of which was included the Pagoda and City of Joggenath on the ground of their having once belonged to some of his ancestors, intimating at the same time to the Commissioners for the affairs of Cuttack his determination never to recede from this demand with the hope of intimidating the British authorities in the Province of Cuttack the Raja of Khoorda considerably augmented his establishment of troops and published his intention of seizing those *pargunnahs* at a convenient period of time

3 In the month of June the Commissioners at Cuttack received authentic intelligence that the Raja of Khoorda had been employing every endeavour to induce the remaining tributary Rajas in the Province of Cuttack to unite in a common effort against the British Authority and this information was corroborated by the intelligence which the Commissioners of Cuttack subsequently received from you Numerous reports conveyed to the Commissioners through various and distinct channels concurred in stating that the Raja of Khoorda continued diligently to increase his Military establishment at the same time the exertions of the Raja of Khoorda were actively employed in repairing and improving the internal defences of his country

4 In consequence of the instructions of His Excellency the Governor General to Lieutenant Colonel Harcourt under date the 4th October of which a copy was enclosed in my letter to you of the same date that officer resolved to dispatch Captain Blunt to the Raja of Khoorda for the purpose of conveying to him the representations prescribed by the Governor General's instructions and of effecting such an arrangement as may afford sufficient security against the prosecution of the Raja's inimical designs Lieutenant Colonel Harcourt however deemed expedient previously to dispatch a native agent to the Raja of Khoorda to apprise the Raja of Lieutenant Colonel Harcourt's intention to dispatch Captain Blunt for the purpose of communicating with him on subjects of considerable importance to the Raja's welfare and interest.

5 Lieutenant Colonel Harcourt's agent having proceeded to Khoorda with difficulty, obtained one interview with Raja He was surrounded night and day by armed men and after the expiration of fourteen days from the day of his arrival he was informed that his longer continuance would be attended with personal danger and was accordingly advised to depart.

6 The Raja of Khoorda has also precluded the freedom of intercourse with the authority to which he is immediately subject, by closing the entrances into his territory and the Messengers whom Lieutenant Colonel Harcourt had had occasion to dispatch to Khoorda or who have been sent by his Agent with letters to that officer have been arrested and confined

7 Various other indications of a spirit of hostility have been manifested by the Raja of Khoorda of a nature to preclude all doubt of his intention to revolt and of the exertion of his utmost endeavour to excite the disposition in the minds of the other tributaries of the British Government dependant upon the Province of Cuttack.

8 Under these circumstances it has become indispensably necessary to acquire the means of imposing a due degree of restraint upon the hostile proceedings of the Raja of Khoorda by measures of coercion

9 His Excellency the Governor-General has accordingly approved Lieutenant-Colonel Harcourt's intention of employing the force under his command in active operations against the powers and resources of the Raja of Khoorda. It is not, however, the intention of the Governor-General to authorize the prosecution of measures of severity towards the Raja of Khoorda beyond the extent necessary for the purpose of depriving him of the means of prosecuting designs of the nature of those which now require the active interposition of the British power.

10 His Excellency the Governor-General deems it proper to communicate to you the preceding detail for the purpose of enabling you eventually to explain to the Ministers of the Raja of Berar the circumstances which have produced the necessity of hostile preparations against the territory of the Raja of Khoorda.

11 The expediency of this measure originates in the probability of a misrepresentation of the motives of that proceeding. Any disputes between the British Government and the petty States or tributaries lately subject to the Raja of Berar, are calculated in a certain degree to excite apprehensions to encourage intrigues in the Court of the Raja of Berar.

12 The Governor-General has received information that Holkar's emissaries and agents have attempted to issue an alarm amongst the petty Chieftains dependant upon the British Government (with a view to induce them to revolt and form Holkar's standard) by encouraging an opinion that it is the secret design of the British Government, ultimately to deprive them of all power and independance and to reduce them gradually to the condition of Zamindars and subjects of the Company, and the object of the intended operations against the Raja of Khoorda may be misrepresented with a view to give a colour of probability to such unfounded calumny.

13 Adverting, however, to the information communicated by you in your letter to my address of the 3rd September, relative to the actual existence of correspondence between the Raja of Berar and the Raja of Khoorda of a nature hostile to the British Government as well as to the terms of the remonstrances which you were directed to address to the Raja of Berar by the instructions of His Excellency the Governor-General contained in my letter of the 4th of October, the prosecution of hostile operations at this time against the Raja of Khoorda might possibly be supposed by the Raja of Berar to originate in our discovery of that Chieftain's correspondence and to be connected with a design of ultimately turning our arms against the Raja of Berar. Such an impression would obviously tend to hostile measures between the British Government and the Raja of Berar. It is necessary, therefore, that you should be prepared to prevent or remove any such impression on the mind of the Raja or his Ministers by being able to state to them the actual circumstances of the case.

14 His Excellency, however, leaves to your discretion the time and mode of explaining those circumstances to the Raja of Berar or his Ministers and His Excellency will approve your abstaining from any explanation whatever on the subject of the Raja of Khoorda, if in your judgment it should be inexpedient or unnecessary.

15 If you should make any such communication, it will be necessary to guard against establishing any precedent by which the Raja of Berar might infer a right of interference between the British Government and any of its tributaries, or any right to question or even to be made acquainted with our conduct towards any of our tributaries or subjects.

Letter No 3—Reports several acts of defiance and hostility on the part of the Raja of Khordha for which he is going to punish him at the head of a military force on the 18th November

FROM—THE COMMISSIONER FOR AFFAIRS AT CUTTACK,
TO—M S ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

Cuttack dated the 16th November 1801

I have the satisfaction of acquainting you that I have received permission from His Excellency the Most Noble the Governor General to attack the Khordha Raja. I say I have the satisfaction to acquaint you with this as I am convinced nothing short of the march of a British force into his territories would ensure the tranquillity of this Province abounding as it does with tributary Rajas over whom the Khordha Raja exercises considerable authority.

I do not conceive it possible that any question can arise in consequence of the movements in Cuttack at the Nagpur Durbar but with the view of enabling you to meet it should it arise, I have the honour to acquaint you with the causes which have rendered the march of British Troops into the Khordha Raja's territories a measure of indispensable necessity.

Various acts of the Khordha Raja's strongly devoting on hostile inclinations on his part towards the British authority and tending in a considerable degree to disturb the tranquillity of the Province of Cuttack I was directed by His Excellency the Most Noble the Governor General in conformity to the moderation which characterizes every measure of His Excellency's administration everywhere he has just caused to be communicated at a proper moment to the Raja of Khordha the grounds of dissatisfaction which his conduct had excited.

With this view I deputed a very respectable native to Khordha directing him to acquaint the Raja that I wished him to receive a European officer who was in my particular confidence as I had subjects with which it was necessary to acquaint the Raja and on the adjustment of which his future welfare considerably depended.

The Khordha Raja, however, declined receiving the European officer and conducted himself with extreme impropriety towards my native messenger. He placed strong guards over him, prevented his communicating with any of his (the Khordha Raja's) subjects and admitted my messenger to a personal interview with him only once notwithstanding the repeated demands of my messenger for another interview as he had communications to make arising out of the transactions at Khordha subsequent to his arrival there. After the expiration of fourteen days the Raja caused it to be intimated to my messenger that should he remain any longer at Khordha it might be attended with consequences dangerous to his safety. The Khordha Raja has further imposed undue restraints between the subjects of the British Government and the inhabitants of his territories. He confined and ill treated my public Hircarrabs coming from Khordha with letters to my address from my messenger and actually seized one of my messenger's letters and broke it open though it was addressed to me. He has placed a guard on the banks of the Mahanuddy River which attempted under his orders to seize some public property coming down to Cuttack saying the Raja's orders were that nothing was to pass belonging to the English Sardars at this place.

The Khordha Raja has further detached a party of armed persons into the Honble Company's possessions and they have plundered some villages and disarmed a small detachment of Burkemdauze in the service of the Honble Company.

In consequence of these unwarranted acts, I am about to proceed with the disposable force under my command with view of expelling the Khorda Raja from his Zamindary, and I shall leave Cuttack for this purpose on the 18th instant, expecting in the conclusion of the present month, to have effected the object intended

I have said that I could not think the Raja of Berar would attempt to require any explanation on the grounds of our movements against the Raja of Khorda, and my opinion on this point is founded on the perfect knowledge which the Raja of Berar must possess on the relative situation of the Raja of Khorda towards the Government in Cuttack, to which he has ever been tributary and under which he is nothing more than a vassal. The Khorda territories are within the limits of Cuttack proper and form an integral part of the Province

In this view it is almost needless to trouble you with any communication on the subject, but as the Raja of Berar will undoubtedly bear in his recollection the hostile intrigue which it has been stated he was encouraging, it has appeared desirable to acquaint you with the real grounds of my movement against the Raja of Khorda

Letter No. 4.—The letter explains (a) that “the proposed Military operations against the Raja of Khurda are entirely unconnected with any views which the British Government may have taken of the proceedings of the Raja of Berar” and (b) that “the military movements against the Raja of Khurda have arisen in consequence of his open resistance” to British Authority.

FROM—MR HARCOURT, COMMISSIONER FOR THE AFFAIRS
OF CUTTACK,

TO—M S ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

Cuttack, dated the 23rd November 1804

I have the honour to acquaint you that I have received, by the command of His Excellency the Most Noble the Governor-General copy of His Excellency's instructions to you transmitted by Mr Edmonstone under date the 13th November

2 His Excellency has further been pleased to order me to communicate to you such further details respecting the Raja of Khorda's conduct as may enable you to satisfy the mind of the Raja of Berar that the proposed military operations against the Raja of Khorda are entirely unconnected with any views which the British Government may have taken of the proceedings of the Raja of Berar

3 Although my letters to your address of the 9th and 16th instant were entitled Private, I trust the statements I took the liberty of making therein, will afford you sufficient information to enable you to effect the object stated in the preceding paragraph.

4 You will have learnt that the military movements against the Raja of Khorda have arisen in consequence of his open resistance to the authority to which he is immediately subject of his unwarranted treatment of my native Agent, and the undue restraints he has imposed on the communication between the inhabitants of his territories and the subjects of the British Empire and in consequence of his having in the first instance actually commenced hostilities against the British Government by seizing on one of its pergunnahs and expelling from them a guard of Burkemdauze in the service of the Hon'ble the Company, and in his having since that period plundered and burnt several villages within the British territories.

5 I have had the honour to acquaint you that the Raja of Khorda has not been apprized of our information on the subject of intrigues stated to have been carried on between the Chieftain and the Raja of Berar and you will observe that even should that suspicion be well founded the subsequent conduct of the Raja of Khorda has rendered it necessary to move against him without referring to this part of his misconduct

6 I must again take the liberty of observing to you that the relative situation of the Raja of Khurda towards the British Government is such as would appear decisively to preclude the Raja of Berar from questioning any measures that may be adopted, towards this tributary, supposing, he had a right to do so in any instance whose possessions form an integral part of the Province of Cuttack. The territories of other tributaries to Cuttack surround those of the Raja of Khorda and I am happy to acquaint you that I have received from most of them assurances of their willing co-operation and the expression of their satisfaction that the assumed consequence of the Khorda Raja is about to be extinguished for he has exercised vexatious and unwarranted authority over many of them for some time past

Letter No 5 — The letter refers to the dangers along the routes between Benares and Nagpur which have adversely affected the trade between the Company's possession and Bhonsla's dominions. The trade routes and the territories through which they passed are briefly mentioned. Colebrooke suggests that the Company and the Bhonsla should bring political pressure to bear on the Rajas of Rewa and Maihar for a free and safe passage for their subjects and form a Commercial Treaty for fixing more definitely than at present the duties payable upon goods imported from the Company's Dominions into those of the Raja of Berar

FROM—H COLEBROOKE RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

TO—THE RIGHT HONBLE EARL OF MORNINGTON
GOVERNOR GENERAL

Nagpur dated the 29th July 1799

Some late occurrences induce me to address Your Lordship on a subject which I have long wished to submit to your consideration. I have hitherto deferred doing so lest I should interrupt Your Lordship's important occupations by obtruding on your notice a matter of comparatively trivial moment and I should still defer it, did I not apprehend that a longer delay would preclude the possibility of obviating a present evil of which Your Lordship might perhaps wish to have been earlier informed for the sake of applying to it a timely remedy

2 The danger to which travellers are exposed in the direct route between Benares and Nagpur has checked a valuable trade which was established between Mirzapore and various parts of the Deccan and I apprehend that if the road continues to be unsafe during the two or three next years this branch of commerce may be irretrievably lost to us. It was the channel for supplying the Central Provinces of the Peninsula with silk and other articles produced or manufactured in Bengal with woollens and metals imported from Great Britain and with many other wrought and unwrought goods upon which the Company's subjects obtained commercial profit. The returns consisted chiefly in raw cotton of a sort peculiarly excellent which is the exclusive production of Berar and is in great request with the manufacturers in England. The trade had flourished several years and was annually increasing and the duties which it paid to the custom house of Benares were considerable and likely to become a productive source of revenue

3 This nourishing commerce has been interrupted through the anarchy which has prevailed in Bundelkhand since the invasion of the country by Ali Bahadur, and especially since the death of the Raja Doorkul Singh. The direct road from Mirzapur towards Berar passes through the district of Maihar, which is held by Doorjan Singh, a Boondela Chieftain. A route somewhat more circuitous skirts his possessions. On both roads travellers are exposed to detention and extortion and merchandise has been so often plundered at his instigation or with his connivance, that the roads are now deemed wholly impracticable for persons proceeding with merchandise or with any valuable property. Even the cossids employed by me for the conveyance of dispatches have frequently been plundered and in one instance several letters were taken from them. A similar treatment was experienced by servants of Colonel Palmer, who were coming to Nagpur on their way to Poona. Greater extortion and worse usage has been suffered in very numerous instances, by unprotected individuals.

4 The danger is not confined to that part of the road which traverses Boondelkhand. Another portion of it which passes through the Rewa Territories, has been likewise deemed unsafe ever since the district has been threatened and it was once actually invaded by the Troops of Ali Bahadoor. Since that time similar confusion prevails there, and the same lawless proceedings have followed. They are now becoming more frequent, while a detachment of Ali Bahadoor's forces hovers on the frontiers of Rewa and only waits the arrival of reinforcements to invade the country.

5 To avoid the imminent risk which the persons and property of travellers are thus exposed to, other routes have been tried by the traders of Mirzapore. One through the forest south of the same to Surgooja and thence to Nagpur, the other through the dominions of the Nawab Vizier to Colpee and then to Saugor, from which place roads lead to Indore, Amraoti, Nagpur and other parts of the Deccan. Both routes being very circuitous, the expense of land carriage is too much enhanced for the staple articles of the trade and this branch of commerce must therefore continue to decay, unless a shorter road can be again opened.

6 The Raja of Berar possesses Gurrah Mandla which was ceded to him during his late visit to Poona, and the tranquillity of that province is now completely established. So large a tract being included in his dominions the road from Nagpur towards Benares is now perfectly secure for nearly two-thirds of its distance, namely for 240 miles from Nagpur to Poosra near Belharee in the confines of Gurrah. It is of course safe when it has reached the Company territories at Hata. The intermediate tract from Poosra to Bhera (45 miles) through the district of Mahir and from Bhera to Hata (75 miles) through the dominions of Raja Ajit Singh or from Poosra to Chanchiya and thence to Hata wholly through his territories has been the scene of frequent depredations, in which merchandise of very considerable value has been plundered with the connivance of Doorjan Singh and the Raja of Rewa.

7 Both Chieftains stand in great awe of the British Government, Ajit Singh especially, whose dominions are contiguous to the province of Benares. As the southern limits of his and of Doorjan Singh's possessions border on a province now belonging to Raja Raghojee Bhonsla both likewise stand in awe of this state. Their very insignificance has indeed emboldened them to manifest some insolence, but they would instantly shrink from the resentment of either power. If then Your Lordship should be pleased to signify to them that future instances of ill-treatment to persons, who have the protection of your Government will be resented, and if a similar notification were at the same time given by the Raja of Berar, I have

little doubt that travellers might afterwards pass with confidence and safety through Rewa and Mailar should the British Government and the Raja of Berar resolve to require and enforce a free and safe passage for their subjects, the road would at once be opened, and thenceforward travellers would probably experience no further molestation

8 It is with great deference I beg leave to suggest to Your Lordship a consideration that a mutual agreement to protect the intercourse of trade between the Company's territories and those of Raghojee Bhonsla might become a part of certain arrangements which might be made with him in the form of a Commercial Treaty for the purpose of fixing more definitely than at present the duties payable upon goods imported from the Company's Dominions into those of the Raja of Berar I shall not presume to enlarge any further on that suggestion and shall detain Your Lordship no longer than to review my apologies for this intrusion on your time

Letter No 6—Certain Items of expenditure incurred by the Residency are mentioned which indicate the prevailing rates of wages, prices of commodities, etc

FROM—EGERTON CIVIL AUDITOR

TO—M ELPHINSTONE RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

Fort William, dated the 29th January 1806

I am directed to inform you that the Vice President in Council has been pleased to pass the account of the disbursement of your Residency for the month of May with exception to the following charges of which an explanation as to the necessity of them is required from you

2. Sica Rupees 275 for 30 chowkydars in addition to your Guard of Native Infantry

3. Sica Rupees 392 for clothes a present to Furzand Ali Moonshy

4. Sica Rupees 93 for 18 Matchlocks.

5. The balance of Rs 2,290-11-0 stated to be in the hands of Messrs Colvins and Bazett also requires further explanation For the working of this charge implies a sum due from Messrs Colvins and Bazett to the Resident

6. The Vice-President in Council is of opinion that the allowance paid by you to news writers at Saugor is high and directs that you be required to limit this expense as much as possible

7. The charge of Rs 1,764-11-0 paid for a tent and an elephant for Colonel Close is to be transferred to the accounts of the Residency at Poona

8. And in future you will be pleased to charge one month's salary only in one month's disbursements

Letter No 7—Elphinstone writes about the loss of Government revenue due to the rates of exchange prevailing in different parts of the country

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE RESIDENT AT NAGPUR

TO—N B EDMONSTONE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

Nagpur dated the 25th April 1806

I have the honour to enclose a statement of the rates of exchange between Nagpur and some of our principal stations

In drawing on Calcutta, I am obliged to give bills payable in 8 days after sight at 6 per cent discount. I have frequently tried, particularly when I heard of the additional interest lately granted on treasury bills, to lessen the discount and to lengthen the term of payment; but without success. Bills on Benares, which are now at par, some months ago bore a premium of 12 per cent.

Letter No. 8 —Elphinstone reports that he is sending some specimens of the "different sorts of rupees in circulation in Nagpur, for the purpose of their being assayed before the rate of exchange is finally settled".

FROM—M ELPHINSTONE, RESIDENT AT NAGPUR,
TO—N. B EDMONSTONE, SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

Nagpur, the 14th July 1806

I have had the honour to receive your letter of the 5th ultimo, and shall be careful to conform to the instructions it contains respecting the mode in which I am to pay the escort and to supply the treasury with cash

I have the honour to send, accompanying specimens of the different sorts of rupees in circulation here for the purpose of their being assayed before the rate of exchange is finally settled. I think it necessary to state that I understand the escort at Hyderabad to receive 14 rupees batta and that it is fixed at so high a rate merely on account of the difference of exchange, but as an indulgence in consequence of the remoteness of the station from Bangal and of the dearness of provisions

If the above information be correct, I beg leave to submit to the consideration of the Hon'ble the Governor-General how far the same reason exist for extending the allowance to the escort at Nagpur

List of coins sent to Calcutta to be assayed—July 13th

- No 1, Nagapooree or Amin Zerbee
- No 2, Mylee Nagpooree 101 equal to 100 Aieen Zerbee.
- No 3, Chandory 101 equal to 100 Aieen Zerbee
- No 4, Jubbulporee 101 equal to 100 Aieen Zerbee
- No 5, Booree Pounnee 102 equal to 100 Aieen Zerbee
- No 6, Adoni, 106 equal to 100 Aieen Zerbee

ERRATA

- Page 1, line 3 from top, *read* 'deliver' *for* 'deliever'
- Page 2, line 7 from top, *read* 'Residency' *for* 'Presidency'
- Page 9, line 37 from top, *read* 'concert' *for* 'conncert'
- Page 18, line 36 from top, *read* 'under' *for* 'to the under'
- Page 19, line 1 from top, *read* '9' *for* '19'
- Page 23, line 49 from top, *read* 'of Captain' *for* 'Captain'
- Page 25, line 14 from top, *read* 'belong' *for* 'belonged'
- Page 50, line 6 from top, *read* 'on' *for* 'no'
- Page 54, line 21 from top, *read* 'dispossessed' *for* 'dispossed'
- Page 69, line 46 from top, *read* 'assistance' *for* 'asistance'
- Page 83, line 9 from top, *read* 'a' *for* 'of'
- Page 85, line 4 from top, *read* 'excepted' *for* 'expected'
- Page 107, line 44 from top, *read* 'explanation' *for* 'explanition'
- Page 114, line 1 from bottom, *read* 'address' *for* 'adress'
- Page 122, line 10 from bottom, *read* 'discretion' *for* 'descretion'
- Page 124, line 4 from bottom, *read* 'Sounded' *for* 'founded'
- Page 128, line 20 from bottom, *read* 'it's a' *for* 'it a'
- Page 138, line 27 from bottom, *read* 'contracting' *for* 'cotracting'
- Page 181, line 10 from top, *read* 'it is sometime' *for* 'it sometime'
- Page 208, line 22 from top, *read* 'independence' *for* 'indepence'
- Page 209, lines 4 and 5 from bottom, *read* 'concurrent testimony of facts
for 'concurrence testimony of pacts'
- Page 211, line 6 from bottom, *read* 'does' *for* 'daes'
- Page 225, line 20 from bottom, *read* 'proceeded' *for* 'porceeded'
- Page 235, line 23 from top, *read* 'any' *for* 'my'
- Page 253, line 3 from bottom, *read* 'corps' *for* 'crops'
- Page 264, line 22 from top, *read* 'at' *for* 'as'
- Page 267, line 1 from top, *read* 'His' *for* 'Hig'
- Page 268, line 10 from bottom, *read* 'inevitably' *for* 'enevitably'
- Page 269, line 20 from top, *read* 'his' *for* 'this'
- Page 271, line 25 from bottom, *read* 'regular' *for* 'rugular'
- Page 282, line 12 from bottom, *read* 'assassinating' *for* 'assainating'
- Page 283, line 17 from bottom, *read* 'through' *for* 'though'
- Page 288, line 10 from bottom, *read* 'too' *for* 'to'
- Page 289, line 19 from top, *read* 'deference' *for* 'difference'
- Page 291, line 24 from bottom, *read* 'was' *for* 'has'
- Page 292, line 13 from bottom, *read* 'had' *for* 'and'
- Page 301, line 24 from bottom, *read* 'more' *for* 'lore'
- Page 308, line 26 from top, *read* 'antagonist' *for* 'antigonist'
- Page 309, line 24 from top, *read* 'he' *for* 'be'

ERRATA—CONT.

- Page 332, line 16 from top, *read* 'eccentricities' for 'accentricities'
- Page 334 line 32 from top, *read* 'poster' for 'poster'
- Page 338, line 29 from top *read* 'There' for 'That'
- Page 340 line 9 from bottom *read* 'profligacy' for 'progligacy'
- Page 350, line 15 from top, *read* 'are' for 'is'
- Page 363, line 23 from bottom, *read* 'happiness' for 'hapiness'
- Page 371, line 11 from top, *read* 'these' for 'their'
- Page 371 line 10 from bottom, *read* 'damag d' for 'demag-d'
- Page 405 line 5 from bottom, *read* 'Sindia' for 'Sinlia'
- Page 434 line 29 from bottom *read* 'however' and 'Dowlat' for
hohever and 'Doolat'
- Page 452, line 18 from bottom *read* 'Tonk' for 'tank'
- Page 435 line 18 and 24 from top *read* 'Gulab' for 'Gopal'
- Page 511 line 17 from top *read* 'frouglt' for 'brouglt'
- Page 514 line 3 from bottom, *read* 'n i her' for 'whether'
- Page 524 line 18 from top, *read* 'he' for 'be'
- Page 533, line 17 from top, *read* 'Amrut' for 'Anand'

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